MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Tehran radio reported that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi "met and conferred with" Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni but did not elaborate on what was discussed.

Tehran radio's English service and PARS broadcast the purported text of the bill authorizing the Iranian Government to arbitrate legal and financial differences with the United States through an intermediary but their versions differed with the earlier Persian text on certain points. Whereas the Persian version said the government is authorized to arbitrate differences "not stemming from the Islamic revolution of Iran" or the seizure of the U.S. Embassy, the English version said the government "is allowed to settle" the differences "which stem from" the embassy's takeover, a point supported in the PARS version. Moreover, while the English version declared that the "islamic government has settled the mentioned differences through the intermediary," the Persian version said only that the government can "take action through mutually agreed arbitration ... to resolve and settle the said disputes," an explanation similar to that in the PARS version.

In conjunction with the Majlis debate on this bill, Tehran radio carried an unattributed commentary which said in part that Iran's "steadfastness" has forced President Jimmy Carter to place "70 percent" of Iran's frozen assets in the Algerian Central Bank, to undertake to return the late shah's wealth and to suspend claims against Iran. However, PARS later cited an "official responsible" for hostage affairs as saying that the "figure given is not supportable." The commentary went on to say that the seizure of the hostages did not lead to the fall of Iran or a "compromise" with the United States and that now the issue "is a dead one," which "should no longer create a problem for us." A later unattributed commentary on the radio made no mention of any U.S. financial concessions, instead stressing that by seizing the hostages, Iran "has achieved its political and spiritual goals" and is about "to regain its legitimate rights."

In further developments, Algiers radio speculated that a settlement is "imminent." However, AFP, citing an "authoritative source," reported that Algeria has "not yet" been asked to receive the U.S. hostages if they are released.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Universities--AFP reported that Jalaleddin Farsi, a leading member of the Islamic Republican Party and "cultural revolution committee" member, said the universities will be reopened only after the ongoing purge of university staff has been completed. Although nearly 10 percent of university professors and lecturers have already been dismissed, the government has set up a new "purge committee," Farsi said, which is to carry out a more thorough review of staff, weeding out alleged spies, Freemasons, Savak accomplices, groups dependent on foreign countries and supporters of parties planning to overthrow the regime by force.

Raja'i Speech--Prime Minister Raja'i told a health seminar that since American imperialism has "no foothold among revolutionary Islamic organizations," it has sought out those "sullied" by Western principles and raised the issue of "expertise." In his speech, reported by Tehran radio, Raja'i told Islamic health societies that the revolution has suffered more than 60,000 "martyrs."

Power Cuts--Electricity supplies in some areas are to be cut temporarily on a rotational basis, an Energy Ministry statement carried by Tehran radio revealed, because of the priority needs of military plants and production industries.

Oil Prices--Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that, according to an Oil Ministry spokesman, oil prices were increased on 1 January, with light crude rising to $37 per barrel and heavy crude rising to $36 per barrel.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi General Command communique, reported by INA, claimed that Iraqi forces raided Iranian positions around Dehloran and disrupted Iranian troop concentrations near Abadan, Susangerd and Mehran. Iraqi planes struck Iranian targets in Ilam, the communique said, but lost one plane in the raid. Iranian forces continued their clashes with Iraqi forces along the Kabir Kuh Mountains, Tehran radio reported, with "intense fighting" on the Kanisakht heights. The radio said that "aggressive Iraqi forces" continued their attacks around Susangerd and Abadan and shelled Dezful and Hoveyzeh.

Syria

Moscow Visit--Syrian Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi met with Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov in Moscow on 13 January, TASS reported, and had "a friendly discussion" on topics of "mutual interest." Monitored Syrian media have not mentioned Ash-Shihabi's visit to the Soviet Union.

Muslim Brotherhood--Damascus radio reported that in three separate incidents, security forces in Aleppo killed four Muslim Brotherhood "criminals." The incidents follow earlier Jordanian and Lebanese reports of increased violence in the Aleppo region.

Egypt

In an interview with French television, reported by MENA, President Anwar as-Sadat said France "should never have permitted" Libyan intervention in Chad. Describing Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as a "mental case" who is dreaming of an African empire, As-Sadat warned against the establishment of a Soviet "arms arsenal" in Libya. The Soviet Union, he said, is penetrating Africa in "three belts" in the south, the center and the north. As-Sadat also said that Egypt will deport two Soviet spy suspects, who, he claimed, were preparing a plan to "undermine the regime," and noted that a third Russian has asked for asylum in Egypt. Regarding the new U.S. administration, As-Sadat said he pins "great hopes" on Secretary of State-designate Alexander Haig because he thinks in "strategic terms."

Libya

In a speech to students in Benghazi, reported by JANA, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that Libyan forces are being reinforced to face "French imperialist troop reinforcements" on Chad's borders. Al-Qadhdhafi went on to affirm that although Libya is still striving to preserve good relations with France, "this cannot be done at the expense of Libya's security" and warned France that it would be "the losing party" in any confrontation with Libya.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SUMMIT COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS AFGHANISTAN SITUATION

LD141023 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 11 Jan 81 p 1

["Special" 'UKAZ report: "Guinea and Tunisia Join Committee To Discuss Afghanistan Problem at At-Ta'if"]

[Excerpts] Jidda--'UKAZ has learned that two more countries have been added to the committee set up by the Islamic Conference Organization to study the question of finding a solution to Afghanistan problem. A well-informed source told 'UKAZ that the committee will meet in At-Ta'if on Friday and will consist of the following:

The foreign ministers of Pakistan, Iran, Guinea and Tunisia in addition to the general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization.

'UKAZ has learned that the committee will discuss the working paper prepared by the general secretary on the Afghanistan problem before it is submitted to the third Islamic summit.

The working paper contains the outcome of the talks which the organization's general secretary had with French President Giscard d'Estaing, Romanian President Ceaucescu and the Soviet ambassador in Paris. It also contains the outcome of the meeting in Blair House [as published] in Geneva which was attended by representatives of the Afghan Islamic resistance movement against the Soviet Communist and military occupation.

It was also learned that the paper indicates that no noteworthy progress has been achieved despite all these activities aimed at reaching a solution to the Afghanistan problem on the basis of the withdrawal of the Soviet military forces and holding talks between Karmal in his capacity as representative of one of the political trends in the country with the representatives of all the other trends in order to work out a representation system for the Muslim Afghan people and to establish a legitimate government that would enjoy the support of all the Afghan people.

ZIAUL HAQ OBJECTS TO AFGHANS AT ISLAMIC SUMMIT

LD121118 Kuwait KUNA in English 1000 GMT 12 Jan 81

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Jan (KUNA)--President Ziaul Haq expressed a strong objection to the idea that the regime of Afghanistan be invited to the forthcoming Islamic summit.

Pakistan is committed to the resolution adopted by the Islamic foreign ministers last January in this respect, he said in an interview with the director general of KUNA, Bayges Hamoud al-Barges.

It is believed that the present Afghan regime is not truly representative of its people but was imposed upon them, General Ziaul said.

The Islamic boycott of the Afghan regime is different from the step taken against Egypt where President as-Sadat ignored both the Arab and Moslem nations by concluding a unilateral agreement with Israel.

The Moslems counter reply was to isolate the Egyptian regime and freeze Egypt's membership in the Islamic Conference Organisation and non-aligned meetings, he said.

Reviewing the situation in Afghanistan [word indistinct] relations with that Moslem state were changed when the Soviet tanks imposed the regime of Babrak Karmal.

Ignoring the resolution of the Islamic foreign ministers to boycott the present regime in Afghanistan would mean the acceptance of a de facto situation which will imply an approval of the Soviet invasion.

This same principle would be applied to any Moslem country which falls victim to a foreign invasion, Ziaul said, adding Afghanistan was isolated because of direct Soviet interference in its domestic affairs.

If the Soviet Union installed another Karmal in Pakistan other Moslem countries would not recognize that regime, the Pakistani president told KUNA.

He denied any Pakistani interference in Afghanistan but affirmed solidarity with the "mujahdeen" and said Pakistan would continue to view the Afghan refugee problem with sympathy.

Pakistan will not accept any compromise solution to the [word indistinct] because that will mean payment of a [word indistinct] as the Palestinians have been doing for the last 33 years.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES HASSAN MESSAGE ON ISLAMIC SUMMIT

NC141656 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Today brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received the Moroccan royal court chamberlain Mr (al-Qudayri), and the advisor of King Hassan II, (Ibn Suda). Both arrived as the special envoys of Moroccan King Hassan II.

Our correspondent has learned that the two envoys have handed Brother Abu 'Ammar a message from King Hassan II dealing with the current situation in the Arab and international arenas as well as the report to be submitted by the Jerusalem Committee to the forthcoming Islamic Conference due to be held in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, on 25 January.

SWEDEN EXPELS FOUR PALESTINIANS; QADDUMI COMMENTS

LD142022 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1700 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The government has decided to expel 4 of the 12 Palestinians in Uppsaqa on the basis of the provisions concerning terrorists to be found in the aliens' act. The government has also decided to order one of them out of the country following the rejection of his applications for a work and residence permit. Here is a report by Per Andersson:

[Andersson] The request by the national police board for 12 Palestinians in Uppsala to be expelled has been discussed by the government throughout the fall. Today the decision was made at an extraordinary government meeting. Four Palestinians are to be expelled as terrorists and one is to be ordered out since (?just) today his application for political asylum in Sweden was rejected. The security police struck just after lunch today. One Palestinian was picked up at 1400 at his workplace, a restaurant in Uppsala where he washes dishes. Another was picked up at the home of his fiancee (Lis-Britt Andersson).

Four Palestinians have thus been taken into custody in accordance with the provisions on terrorism in the aliens' act. The provisions override some of the principles of the rule of law existing in any other legislation, for example, the principle of the possibility of appealing against any decision to take people into custody. This cannot be done when the government arrests someone on the basis of the provisions on terrorism. This is in violation of the Council of Europe's convention on human rights, which is being said by (Peter Nobel), lawyer of those expelled in Uppsala.

The four Palestinians are to be expelled because they are members of (?PFLP-GC) an organization viewed by the government as a terrorist organization. But the four Palestinians say that they left the organization several years ago. The organization is part of the PLO, the Palestinians' umbrella organization which has an official office in Stockholm and which for several years has dissociated itself from terrorist acts.

But the government is of a different opinion. Here is departmental counselor Jan Flod from the Ministry of Labor:

[Begin Flod recording] The government considers it a terrorist organization which is prepared to commit terrorist acts even outside its home country, if I may put it that way, in other words, is prepared to carry out attacks anywhere in the world.

[Question] How did you arrive at this assessment?

[Flod] A large number of countries have arrived at that assessment. The organization has declared that it will fight its cause by means of violence. Four persons are to leave the country because they are held to be terrorists. [Word indistinct] terrorists. [end recording]

Faruq Qaddumi, so-called PLO's foreign minister, is in Sweden right now together with a delegation. This morning he met Foreign Minister Ullsten, and this afternoon he was asked to comment on the Swedish Government's expulsion decision:

[Begin Qaddumi recording in English] This is unfair and unjustified. It (?would) hurt the, you know, the Arab and [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Faruq Qaddumi's immediate comment on the government's expulsion decision is sharp and without reservations: The decision will damage Sweden's relations with the Arab world and the Palestinians; it is unfair and unjustified, we expect our people to be treated decently. Faruq Qaddumi also said that the decision came as a complete surprise. It is easy to realize that this was a surprise sprung at the worst possible moment, only a few hours after Qaddumi met Foreign Minister Ullsten and had discussed, among other things, how Sweden and the PLO may develop their relations. But now, Qaddumi said, the PLO delegation intends to wait and see for a couple of days, and then in some way or another submit its views to Foreign Minsiter Ullsten.

KUWAIT

PAPER SCORES HAIG'S MIDEAST POLICY STATEMENTS

LD141326 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Press review on AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM commentary]

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jan (KUNA)--AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the U.S. policy in the Gulf region:

"The U.S. insists on keeping the Gulf region a hotbed for tension and world conflicts by massing its military troops and bases in the area and by maintaining total support for Israel and its refusal to recognize the Palestinians right to self-determination. This was made clear by the recent statement of the U.S. Secretary of State-designate Alexander Haig on defending his country's vital resources in the Gulf.

"Why does the U.S. make so much fuss over a nonexisting peril in the region? This kind of thinking is baseless and can only be justified by the U.S. aim to impose its hegemony over our region and involve the Arabs in disputes that will divert their attention from Israel and the Palestinian cause.

"By sowing the seeds of tension in the region, the U.S. may aim at finding the suitable pretext to launch a military action inspired by Israel against the oil countries.

"Supported by the U.S., Israel is also trying to 'inflate the ballon of tension' in the area by alleging the existence of imiginary perils threatening the oil resources. This allegation was spread either intentionally or unintentionally by the Soviet Union when it dispatched its military troops to Afghanistan. This is the real threat to our oil resources and it clearly proves that the superpowers and their allies are playing a well-orchestrated game in the Gulf region."

"If the intrusive statement of U.S. Secretary of State-designate Alexander Haig about American presence in the Gulf is an exact index of the future policies of the Republican administration in this region, one would be justified in commenting that the portents are far from being happy. Haig told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the United States cannot count on NATO to extend its defence role to the Gulf and should be prepared to take military action alone to protect oil supplies from that region.

"The underlying concept of Haig's vituperations is the untenable and fallacious assumption that his country has the perogative to act as a self-appointed overseer and overlord in the Gulf. For rationally speaking, the security of the Gulf is properly the concern of the Gulf states alone and no other power, however powerful militarily, has any right to poke its nose into the affairs of the region.

"Moreover, the use of military force by one superpower can draw an equally strong reaction from another superpower. The Republican administration would do well to adopt moderation in its concepts and actions if it is to make a judicious use of the power which it is going to enjoy by virtue of its control of the state machinery of a powerful country."

SAUDI ARABIA

PAPER THREATENS MOVES AGAINST 'ADVENTURES'

LD150907 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 10 Jan 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Those Adventurers"]

[Text] There are three facts about us which must be understood by "others."

The first fact is that our country never has the ambition to achieve gains at the expense of others, nor does it seek to assume a position other than its natural place on the map of political interest.

The second fact is that we do everything in our power to maintain strong, exemplary and solid relations with everybody. Though this may cost us dearly, we try to continue to make sacrifices rather than lose anybody or have anybody misunderstand us.

The third fact is that we reject interference in our own affairs or violation of our rights because we honor our commitments toward others.

For this reason we are not prepared to appease any power, to remain silent over any adventure or to condone any violation of or departure from any principles or commitments.

In the meantime we give a strong warning to anyone who tries to jeopardize or violate these rights or misunderstandings our tolerant behavior toward him.

In trying at this time to create suitable atmospheres and climates for Arab and Islamic action with a view to uniting our ranks and bringing together our divided forces, the [Saudi Arabian] Kingdom is acting in its belief that this is the best way, a patriotic and sincere way, to preserve the gains of this nation.

If this move displeases some people, arouses their fears and prompts them to commit crimes against the nation, they must bear the consequences of this "foolishness" and pay dearly for it because the nation has suffered a great deal and is no longer prepared to condone their rashness, gangsterism and violations. We will teach them a lesson they will never forget. They must understand that this nation has tolerated their stupid behavior long enough. They must also understand that this country's patience, forgiveness and tolerance for the sake of the nation must not be abused and that it will take measures that will put things in order to prevent those persons committing further follies, dividing our ranks and creating problems here and there in order to impede the process of Arab and Islamic action.

UAE

MINISTER RECEIVES VISITING ITALIAN OFFICIAL

JN141448 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Jan (ENA)--At noon today Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, met with Roberto (Palski), Italian minister of state for foreign trade, who is currently visiting the country.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, Foreign Ministry under secretary; Ya'qub al-Kindi, head of the political department in the Foreign Ministry; and Antonio Napolitano, Italian ambassador the UAE.

During the meeting bilateral trade and economic relations were discussed. Viewpoints were also exchanged on the situation in the region, in addition to issues of common interest.

Rashid 'Abdallah also received (Philip Tshitchi), ROK ambassador to the UAE, and discussed bilateral relations with him.

14 Jan Talks

JN141554 Doha QNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Jan (QNA)--This afternoon a round of talks was held between the UAE delegation under 'Abd ar--Rahman Sa'id Ghanim, under secretary of the economy and trade minister; and the Italian delegation, under Roberto (Palski), minister of state for foreign trade, who is currently visiting Abu Dhabi.

Ways of developing economic and trade relations and to promote a bilateral trade exchange were discussed. A draft agreement for economic and technical cooperation was also discussed, for the purpose of developing and improving bilateral relations.

The Italian minister arrived in Abu Dhabi earlier today on a 3-day visit to the UAE.

YAR

PDRY ENVOY DELIVERS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO SALIH

JN121814 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Jan 81

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, this afternoon received Lt Col Husayn ad-Daf'i, the president's adviser on unity affairs, who conveyed to the president a reply message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Pepple's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland. Ad-Daf'i briefed the president on his visit to the southern part of the homeland.

In a statement Ad-Daf'i said that all issues of interest to both parts of Yemen were discussed. Aspects of coordination between the two Yemens during the forthcoming Islamic summit were also discussed. He also said that a 1981 timetable for the unity committees was drawn up. Ad-Daf'i concluded by saying that his meetings with the brother officials in the southern part of the homeland had been successful.

TEXT OF AS-SADAT INTERVIEW BY FRENCH TELEVISION

NC141610 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1414 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Interview of President Anwar as-Sadat by (Pierre Sira), correspondent of French television channel two, in Cairo--date not given]

[Text] Aswan, 14 Jan (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has emphasized the need to unite the efforts of the two superpowers to solve the current issues. He expressed his belief that it is not possible to separate the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict from what is happening in the Gulf or the Iranian-Iraqi war or from moves by Al-Qadhdhafi, which are patronized by the Soviets, in Africa.

The president warned against the Soviet activities in Africa, represented in three belts which the Soviets have set up from Angola to Mozambique in the south, from Afghanistan to Chad and Libya in the center and the third belt which is being set up with the conclusion of a treaty with Syria that includes Libya, which is considered as part of the union between them, in addition to the arsenal which the Soviet Union has set up in Libya.

This came in an important and comprehensive interview which President Anwar as-Sadat granted to (Pierre Sira), the correspondent of the French television channel two in Cairo.

Concerning the Chadian issue, President as-Sadat expressed his belief that France shouldn't have allowed Al-Qadhdhafi to work this way against Chad and that he would have welcomed any aid from France to Chad that would have prevented Al-Qadhdhafi from imposing himself on this state, because what has taken place does not express the desire of the people but the ambitions of Al-Qadhdhafi who dreams of becoming a great leader of an empire.

The following is the text of the interview:

Question: Mr President, what do you think of the role of France concerning Libya and Chad?

Answer: Let me tell you this. What has taken place in Chad is really disappointing, because we know that there is a limited French presence in Chad. This presence might not be in the form of forces, because the forces had been withdrawn before, but there is a political presence. What I consider is that France should never have permitted Al-Qadhdhafi to commit this against Chad. This happened before when the French pilots were there and the entire situation was resolved in one raid. So if you asked me as a friend and as an African, I would say I would have welcomed any aid from France to Chad that would have prevented Al-Qadhdhafi from imposing himself on this country. What has been reached is not, under any circumstances, a unity or a union and it does not express the desire of the people but the ambitions of Al-Qadhdhafi alone.

Question: What is Al-Qadhdhafi looking for in Chad?

Answer: Well, I have known Al-Qadhdhafi before. He once sought unity with Malta. What does he find in Malta? For instance, he has dreams of becoming a great leader of an empire. He would like to start his dream of great leadership in Chad, Niger, Tunisia and the states directly bordering him. The man, is, as I have already told you, a mental case.

Question: Mr President, do you believe that Al-Qadhdhafi's actions threaten Egypt as they threaten Sudan, Mali and Niger?

Answer: For sure, yes. These actions are definitely a threat to Sudan and that which threatens Sudan also threatens Egypt. They are a threat in the first place to Egypt and not to Sudan only. This is a very dangerous situation.

Question: So what do you intend to do?

Answer: Well, we are holding contacts with our brothers in Sudan and we are participating in the OAU meetings. We shall be attending today's meeting [in Lome]. We have stated our position: We have shut our embassy there [in Chad] until the situation is clarified.

Question: Isn't there going to be a direct action?

Answer: Well, this matter has to be agreed upon by the OAU.

Question: Will this matter be agreed upon at the present conference?

Answer: Really, I cannot know what might take place at present. However, this behavior in itself is gravely dangerous--not only to the Sudan or Egypt, but to Africa, because there are countries that have boundaries with Chad such as Central Africa, Mali, Niger and the Cameroon.

Question: It seems that the coming days will witness Mr Peres' assumption of the Israeli opposition Labor Party's leadership. You have good relations with Mr Peres.

Answer: As a matter of fact, my relations with all of them are as good as can be; this goes for Menahem Begin and the Labor Party, all of them. Both Begin and Peres are our friends, believe me. As you know, we do not interfere in their domestic affairs--just as we have our own domestic affairs. Their domestic affairs are their business and we do not interfere in them. However, my relations and our relations with them are as good as can be.

Question: In his dealings with you, Mr Begin has displayed a conciliatory attitude. Was this attitude by choice or was it dictated by necessity?

Answer: (Interrupting) It was an attitude.

Question: You, on your part, have been conciliatory in your dealings with Begin; was this by your own choice or by necessity?

Answer: Let me tell you this: The fact that, for the first time in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, we have achieved the Camp David agreements whose first stage was embodied by the agreement signed between Egypt and Israel which, in turn, was followed by the normalization of relations and all that we achieved together--all of this makes it only natural that we should act in a conciliatory spirit; for we are no longer getting emotional. We are also no longer being subjected to an explosive situation as was the case before the Camp David agreements when I used to advise against letting the situation explode. At present, the entire situation is more secure and we only have to assume our responsibilities. This goes for both countries and there is no need for us to attack each other.

Question: Your Excellency Mr President, do you think that the Labor Party under Peres' leadership will be willing, for example, to make concessions which Begin might not be willing or able to make?

Answer: I met with Shim'on Peres and two of his top aides, Abba Eban and Bar-Lev. The latter is currently the Labor Party's secretary general. We met about 2 months ago. As you might have heard, we are friends. Moreover, (?we discussed) all the issues--particularly the Jordanian alternative. I informed them of my views, because I did not agree with their viewpoint concerning the timing of the Jordanian alternative. We understood each other's viewpoint. The same applies to Menahem Begin. That is, we understand each other's viewpoints. We are sufficiently civilized and can sit down any time and discuss anything despite our differences. It is only natural that each of us should have his own viewpoint.

Question: But there is another question. Should Begin resign, will Your Excellency regret this?

Answer: I have been dealing with Begin. Allow me to remind you that I had expressed my desire to deal with a strong man. Begin has proved himself to be a strong man. However, I also said that I want to deal with a man who has a genuine desire for peace. Well, we are currently differing on the part related to autonomy as stated in the Camp David agreements. But this does not mean at all that we will start attacking each other or making confrontations or anything of the sort because we are aware that we have different attitudes and we are also aware that we intend to reach a comprehensive settlement.

Question: Mr President, the Camp David agreements have not yet been completely implemented. Do you believe that after President Reagan takes office, the deadlock will be overcome through negotiations or will it be necessary to introduce changes to the provisions of these agreements to overcome this deadlock?

Answer: Well, let me tell you this. The Camp David agreements should be considered the cornerstone for a comprehensive settlement. We have laid a very strong cornerstone through the Camp David agreements. The Egyptian-Israeli treaty, which represented the first part of the Camp David agreements, is also considered a cornerstone for a comprehensive settlement. Without the United States as a full partner, we could never have achieved Camp David or what we have achieved in general in the past 3 years. Moreover, we could not have achieved the momentum that will lead to a comprehensive settlement. Therefore, it is necessary for the United States to continue to play the role of a full partner. I have made this clear to President Reagan and to his aides, especially Dr Kissinger who visited me recently. Vice President Mubarak also visited the United States last month and met with most members of the new Reagan administration.

I believe that we and the United States are in agreement that, regardless of who is in office, we must adhere to the Camp David agreements, because, as I said, they are the cornerstone for the entire peace process. I have learned from Dr Kissinger and from Vice President Mubarak who met with the members of the new U.S. administration that this is well known in the United States. Therefore, I have no fear of anything. As a matter of fact, I have no fears regarding this aspect. The situation is that after President Reagan takes office, there will be the question of priorities, and I believe that our region has absolute priority, whether in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the comprehensive settlement, the tense situation in the Gulf, Afghanistan or the events in Chad.

Question: Mr President, considering the present world situation, Reagan may give priority to combating the expansion of Soviet influence. What is your view?

Answer: This is completely acceptable to me. It has been a secret so far, but I now declare that the Egyptian authorities have arrested Soviet elements that were trying to establish contacts with Egyptians and have put them on trial. There is Soviet activity in Africa. The Soviet Union has established three belts--from Angola to Mozambique in the south, from Afghanistan to Chad and Libya and in the center and the third belt is represented in the treaty which it has concluded with Syria. The treaty with Syria also includes Libya which is a part of the so-called union between Syria and Libya. Moreover, you are well aware of the arms arsenal which the Soviet Union has established in Libya.

Question: Don't you believe, Mr President, that fighting the Soviet influence would impede the negotiations on self-determination for the Palestinians for a long time?

Answer: I believe that the issue should be dealt with in a comprehensive manner. I believe that the entire issue should be dealt with in a comprehensive manner. [sentences as received] The position now covers the Arab-Israeli conflict, Afghanistan, the Gulf and the situation in Africa. All these questions must be raised at the table by the two superpowers, because we do not want to enter into the sphere of influence of any side. But we are prepared to extend a hand of friendship to those who respect our national inclination.

I believe that you cannot separate the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict from what is happening in the Gulf or the Iranian-Iraqi war or from the moves by Al-Qadhdhafi, which are patronized by the Soviets, in Africa.

Question: Does Reagan concur with this analysis?

Answer: Let me hope that he does. I have great hopes because of the appointment of General Haig. I know that this man thinks in strategic terms and what we need is strategic thinking to follow up what is taking place throughout the world.

Question: It is also clear, Mr President, that the Reagan government will give priority to the question of petroleum. Therefore, it is necessary to adopt a conciliatory attitude toward the petroleum-producing Arab states. Don't you fear that this conciliation will be at your expense?

Answer: Not at all, not at all. I welcome any arrangements among the United States, Western Europe and my colleagues in the Gulf. Why? I do not want the flow of the Gulf petroleum, which constitutes 60 percent of the world petroleum reserves, to stop, because this would mean the collapse of Western civilization and our own collapse. We want to build our country, and the West is the only source which is prepared to provide the technology and which has this technology. Therefore, we are partners and we truly want to sell you our petroleum and buy from you not only commodities but technology as well to build our country. My colleagues in the Gulf would like to give you their petroleum and not give it to the Soviet Union, because, as you know, it is not possible to deal with the ruble everywhere whereas it is possible to deal with the dollar and the franc everywhere. Were we not true partners, I would not have announced my readiness to grant facilities to the United States and Western Europe to reach the Gulf to emphasize to my colleagues in the Gulf, who produce the petroleum, that everything will proceed in full coordination.

Question: Is there any possibility that you will try to eliminate the differences between you and the Arabs, the moderate Arabs, of course?

Answer: Well, in the first place I did not sever relations with them, they severed relations with me. Let us look at the situation 15 or 16 months after they severed relations with Egypt. Egypt is free to maneuver and to do anything, while they are completely divided among themselves. Iraq is against Iran, Iran is with Syria, Syria is with Libya, Saudi Arabia broke relations with Libya and Iraq is in disagreement with Libya. All these divisions exist in the Arab world, while Egypt is the island of stability and democracy that will welcome its Arab brothers to come but will not run after any one of them.

Question: Mr President, have you met with Madame Giscard d'Estaing?

Answer: Yes, it was a good meeting during which we exchanged views. You know that we and President Giscard d'Estaing are like one family. We meet at any time. My sons meet with his sons and my wife meets with his wife. We are really one family. I asked her to convey a specific message to my friend President Giscard.

Question: Are you following the French presidential campaign?

Answer: I asked Madame Giscard and she told me that President Giscard has not yet nominated himself or declared his stand.

Question: Shirac has not yet nominated himself. Only Mitterrand and Marchais have declared their nomination. Several changes will take place.

Answer: Quite right and quite fast, especially in our area. No one had predicted that Iraq and Iran would commit such a grave mistake, especially Iraq because it began the whole process.

Question: Yes, they thought they would be there in 3 days.

Answer: Precisely, like what Al-Asad thought regarding Lebanon 5 years ago. He thought he could solve Lebanon's problem in 1 week. He has been there for 6 years and he will never find the way to get out of there.

Question: Did you meet Reagan before he was elected?

Answer: No. Usually I meet with the Congress and Senate members whenever I go there, but I never met with President Reagan. However, I know Haig and I met him. I also know Kissinger and we have worked together, as you know. The peace process started here in January 1974.

Question: Do you believe Kissinger will be given a post in the new administration. Haig denied this?

Answer: Kissinger also denied this. He gave me his ideas. He will always be ready, as he told me, to act as a troubleshooter in any big problem.

Question: He likes this role.

Answer: But you know he does not like to involve himself in details.

Question: Mr President, the essential alliance [at-tahaluf al-jawhari] which you established with Washington might lead to a state of affairs whereby President Reagan will force you to abandon the Palestinian problem--particularly since fighting the Soviet influence will require the consolidation of the Washington-Cairo-Tel Aviv axis.

Answer: Allow me to tell you this: We will always have a free will in this country. I do not have to remind you that when, at a certain point, I felt that the Soviet Union wanted to impose something on us, I refused to go along. We are not acting as part of any country's sphere of influence. I am completely sure now that the American people, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Senate and the U.S. administration in Washington know that I want us to be friends, friends in times of need. We have proved to be friends in times of need. Therefore, the United States knows that Egypt has responsibilities of leadership in the Arab and Islamic worlds. If the matter had to do with the Sinai only, there would have been no need for all of this. However, it is related to the comprehensive settlement, and the Palestinian problem is the heart and crux of the whole problem. Therefore, I do not believe Reagan will ask me anything contradicting this, because this is the attitude I announced to the entire world.

Question: Your Excellency had said that you have never met with Reagan. What is Your Excellency's feelings toward Reagan the man, not the president?

Answer: As I have always said: Let us wait until I meet him, and then I can answer your question. However, according to what I have read, to what I have been enlightened (?by) and to what I have heard from Henry Kissinger, he is a very personable man indeed. I reached the same conclusion from what I read in the papers and all that. But let us wait until I meet with him.

Question: Mr President, I was expecting Your Excellency to mention Europe, because, in the wake of Carter's defeat, you sounded as if you had rediscovered the European initiative--at least for the moment. Is this correct?

Answer: Not at all, on the contrary. I have always urged Europe to play a prominent role. I visited with France, with my friend Giscard. I have been reiterating that France has always played a vanguard role in this respect. I have also always been making the best of my efforts to lead Europe to play its role because we need Europe just as we needed it in the past and just as we will need it in the future. Guarantees will have to be given to Israel, and Europe has to bear its share [of these guarantees]. We have many friends cooperating with us in rebuilding our country. They are giving us new technologies. This is why I told you that I feel I am Europe's partner and that Europe is my partner--not only in the sphere of technology but in the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Gulf conflict and the Iraq-Iran conflict. It is for this reason that I have always declared my willingness to grant Western Europe any facilities it needs to reach the Gulf so that we can contain the war between Iraq and Iran.

Replying to your question, I would say: Yes. I have not discovered Europe's role just now, I have always sought it and I have always been urging my friends Giscard, Schmidt, Wilson--and those who followed him later, Callaghan and Thatcher, to assume their role. And I will continue my efforts in this respect because, as I told you, we are partners in this respect.

Question: Do you believe the European countries will play their role more easily with the Reagan administration?

Answer: They must play a role with him. However, they must take into consideration that Israel heeds no one except the United States. You saw that when the Security Council issued a resolution and the United Nations issued a resolution and Israel paid no heed to them. Israel heeds the United States. So we certainly need Europe to join the United States in its efforts, and if this happens we will surely reach peace in this area.

Question: You have been a little bit disappointed by Carter's defeat. Is that because he was your friend or because of his policy?

Answer: Well, you know Carter is a dear friend. He was a dear friend, and he will continue to be a dear friend. The first time I visit the United States, whenever Reagan invites me, I will visit Carter at his hometown, Plains. Let me tell you very frankly that, like any other person, I was stunned by the result of the elections. However, I have already stated that we will deal with anyone the American people choose.

Question: Egypt is free; this is true. When you wanted to expel the Russians, you did that. And we remember that was in July 1972.

Answer: But what I told you today--about the Soviets whom we arrested--is new news that has not been announced yet.

Question: We cannot use it, because it will be broadcast.

Answer: Yes, but you can send it as a flash.

Question: Mr President, can you tell us how many Soviets have been arrested.

Answer: It is a very important thing. One was arrested and he is not a diplomat, but he implicated a Russian diplomat in his confession. They are two. Today, one of the members of the trade mission--who is a Russian but not a diplomat--has asked for asylum in Egypt, and I agreed to this. This happened today, 2 hours before you came here.

Question: Yes, yes, we can send this.

Answer: So, they are three. One asked for asylum and we agreed and the other two include a diplomat and one from the trade mission.

Question: Did the one who was the first to be arrested implicate the diplomat in a confession?

Answer: Yes.

Question: What do you intend to do?

Answer: Well, we are a civilized people. We will deport them in accordance with international law.

Question: They were trying to contact people?

Answer: Contact people, carry out espionage and prepare a plan to undermine the regime.

Question: Thank you, Mr President.

AS-SADAT BRIEFS DANISH PARLIAMENTARIANS ON MIDEAST

LD141109 Copenhagen AKTUELT in Danish 12 Jan 81 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Worries About Soviet Union"]

[Text] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat received the Danish Folketing's Presidium, led by its Chairman K.B. Andersen, which has just paid a week's visit to Egypt. And the talks with As-Sadat were unusual in many ways.

The Danish parliamentarians were given a fresh Egyptian briefing--and a very frank appraisal--of the situation in the Middle East, which is still a powder keg in many ways.

As-Sadat took a very serious view of Libya's and Chad's attempts to establish political union and said bluntly that if these endeavors develop into a threat against Sudan, Egypt cannot sit idly by and watch such developments.

As-Sadat also expressed his great concern over the Soviet Union's advances in Africa, where the Western world's passivity has given the Soviet Union the opportunity to win influence and positions.

When the Danish delegation left Denmark it was uncertain whether it would be able to have talks with President as-Sadat. It was granted them under unusual circumstances. First, As-Sadat broke his traditional rule of not receiving delegations on Fridays--the Islamic holy day. After prayers in a mosque in Aswan last Friday [9 January] As-Sadat met the Danes for long and unusually frank talks. For no less than 1.5 hours the Egyptian president set forth his thoughts and appraisal of the world situation.

On relations between Egypt and Israel he said that there would not be a new war between the two countries. There are difficulties in reaching agreement, but it will be reached regardless of who is in power in Israel.

It is As-Sadat's view that it will be easier to reach an agreement with the Israeli Labor Party, which has already had a delegation meet As-Sadat, but whether Begin is government head or not results will be achieved. The change of administration in Washington will not delay efforts. As-Sadat foresees a meeting between Reagan and As-Sadat and then a meeting between Reagan and the Israeli Government leader as precursors for a new summit on the Middle East.

On Egypt's relations with the Arab countries As-Sadat said that there will be a normalization. Not at the level which once existed, but in the form of cooperation which can function.

In addition to K.B. Andersen the Folketing's deputy chairmen took part in the visit: Knud Enggaard, E. Ninn-Hansen, Ove Jensen and Ebbe Stange.

YUGOSLAV DEPUTY SECRETARY LEAVES CAIRO 15 JAN

NC150936 Cairo MENA in English 0920 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA)--Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister for Middle East and African affairs Petrovic left here this morning for home after a four-day visit to Egypt. During his stay here, he met with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and a number of the Foreign Ministry's senior officials. Meetings dealt with bilateral relations and the conference of the non-aligned group due to be held in New Delhi next month. They also dealt with the most important world issues, at the head of which the Middle East issue, the situation in Chad and the Iran-Iraq war.

LIBYA OPENS BORDER TO EGYPTIAN CIVILIANS

LD140913 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo--An unexpected development has occured on the Egyptian-Libyan border following Libya's reduction of its buildup on the Egyptian front for the first time in over 3 months. Egyptian border monitoring sources have confirmed that Libya has opened its border to Egyptian civilians without any restrictions and that the Libyan people's committees have set up large conspicuous posters saying: "The Jamahiriyah welcomes the Egyptian brothers on its soil unconditionally and without restrictions."

The Egyptian sources cannot find any political explanation for this unexpected measure in the light of the obvious tension in the relations between the two countries, especially since Libya has declared the establishment of unity between it and Chad and Egyptian officials and the Egyptian official press have attacked this measure.

SOVIET TRADE ATTACHE DEPORTED FOR SPYING 14 JAN

NC150612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA)--Yuriy Matechenko Soviet trade attache in Cairo, was deported tonight after an order had been issued to expel him from the country following an investigation by responsible authorities on charges of espionage. The Soviet diplomat left Cairo international airport at 2130 today aboard an Aeroflot plane on his way to Moscow.

EGYPTIAN BEING QUESTIONED ON SPY CHARGES

NC150932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0857 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA)--AL-AKHBAR reports today that the state security prosecution, headed by Chief Attorney Raja' al-'Arabi, has begun questioning the Egyptian employee accused of giving information to Soviet Trade Attache Yuriy Matechenko, who was deported last night after responsible authorities had questioned him on spying charges. It has been decided to detain the employee for 15 days. The investigation is still continuing.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER CONFERS WITH OLOF PLAME

JN141459 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, met here today with Olof Plame, the UN secretary general's personal envoy, and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, which was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, the two sides reviewed the mediation tasks undertaken by the UN mission, the nonaligned movement and the Islamic Conference to find a just and honorable solution to the conflict between Iraq and Iran. They also discussed any new steps that can be undertaken by the UN secretary general's envoy.

The deputy prime minister explained Iraq's efforts to reach a peaceful and honorable settlement, stressing Iraq's stand toward its rights and the Arab nation's rights.

RCC VICE CHAIRMAN PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN

For reportage on the visit of 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, to Spain, see the Spain section of the 13 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

14 Jan Return

JN141920 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA)--'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, returned tonight at the end of an official 3-day visit to Spain.

'Izzat Ibrahim headed an official delegation to the talks with Spanish officials, which dealt with ways of promoting bilateral relations and with the current Arab and international situation.

In a cable he sent to Adolfo Suarez, Spanish prime minister, 'Izzat Ibrahim affirmed that the results of the talks held between the two sides will help bolster and entrench the already well-developed relations between the two states for the good of the two peoples.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED 14 JAN

JN141922 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, held a press conference this evening in which he talks about the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the current events in the Arab homeland.

The press conference, which lasted more than 2 hours, was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, Revolution Command Council secretary; Latif Nasif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Sabah Salman, director general of the press and information department at the president's office; and the editors in chief of the Kuwaiti papers.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE 215

JN141716 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Communique No 215 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our valiant armed forces continued to hit and destroy the enemy remnants' attempts to attack our forward positions in the operations sectors. Following are the results of operations yesterday evening and today:

I. The ground forces:

A. Four of the enemy were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
B. Our forces in the Gilan-e Gharb region killed five and destroyed three vehicles, one of which was carrying personnel.
C. Our units destroyed three enemy tanks in the Sayf Sa'd region. In a dogfight yesterday, our planes shot down one Phantom plane. Battles are still going on between our forces and the ignorant Persian forces.
D. Our forces opened all sources of fire on an enemy troop concentration near their positions in the Mehran Region, killing nine and destroying one ammunition stockpile. It has become certain to us that enemy losses in the same region on 12 and 13 January 1981 amounted to 145 dead in addition to the losses mentioned in our two communiques of the past 2 days.
E. One of our units' forces in the Dezful region today launched a raid against Dehloran, which was used by the Khomeyni guards and the enemy troops as a base for attacking our positions. The force managed to destroy an enemy force in it and returned safely to base after inflicting the following losses: One serviceable tank and one serviceable excavator were seized; three tanks and three ammunition stockpiles were destroyed; all enemy equipment and supply warehouses were destroyed.
F. Our units killed 11 of the enemy in the Shush region and destroyed 1 armored vehicle.
G. Our units engaged enemy assembly points in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, killing 43 and destroying 2 tanks and 2 vehicles, one of which was loaded with charlatan Khomeyni guards.
H. An enemy tank was destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
I. Our units opened fire on enemy troop concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 54 were killed and 1 tank, 1 gun, 1 rocket launcher, 2 observation posts and 1 ammunition stockpile were destroyed.

II. Our air force planes today launched eight raids against enemy armor, vehicles and artillery in the Ilam sector opposite the Sayf Sa'd region, scoring direct hits. All but one of our planes returned safely. We hold the Iranian authorities responsible for the safety of its pilot.

Thus, known enemy losses total 271 dead, 11 tanks, 1 armored vehicle, 1 gun, 7 vehicles--1 of which was carrying soldiers and another of which was carrying charalatan Khomeyni guards--1 excavator, 5 ammunition stockpiles, 1 rocket launcher and 3 observation posts in addition to the destruction of an enemy force in Dehloran and a number of equipment and supply warehouses and the downing of 1 Phantom plane.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Eight martyrs in all sectors
B. In equipment: Three vehicles, one gun and one mortar were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forced General Command, 14 January 1981

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM GULF TOUR

JN142033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1950 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus this afternoon following visits to the PDRY and the YAR during which he conveyed messages from President Hafiz al-Asad to Presidents 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The messages dealt with recent Arab and international developments and Syria's relations with these countries.

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR TRIPOLI CONFERENCE

JN142210 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--Syria's delegation under Comrade Yusuf al-As'ad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee member, left Damascus this evening to take part in the Arab people's conference which will be held in Tripoli between 15 and 18 January. The delegation comprises representatives of the [Ba'th] Party, the Progressive National Front, the popular organizations and the vocational unions in the country.

Comrade al-As'ad said that the conferees will discuss a draft resolution of the National Democratic Front for the Arab people's conference, the political charter and other issues on its agenda.

The delegations of the Democratic National and Patriotic Front of Iraq, the PLO, the Jordanian National movement and the Eritrean Liberation Front's Revolutionary Council left on the same plane.

FORMER LEBANESE PRESIDENT FRANJIYAH PAYS VISIT

JN131258 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah at 1330 today.

Sulayman Franjiyah arrived in Damascus at 1215 today, at the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad. Sulayman Franjiyah is accompanied by his son Robert Franjiyah and deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rafi.

Sulayman Franjiyah was received at the entrance to Damascus by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, and by the chief of protocol in the presidency.

In a statement to reporters, Franjiyah said: I have come to Damascus to listen to an evaluation of the situation in the Arab nation from President Hafiz al-Asad.

News Conference

JN141903 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and His Excellency Sulayman Franjiyah resumed their talks at the presidential palace at 1100 today. The meeting lasted for 3 hours, during which talks centered on Lebanon's affairs and the Arab homeland's situation.

Near the end of the meeting, President Hafiz al-Asad answered a question on how he would evaluate President Franjiyah's role on the national and pan-Arab levels after 5 years of war in Lebanon in light of the Syrian president's awareness of the ongoing plots to divide the country.

The president answered: Syria's opinion of President Sulayman Franjiyah's role is clear and well-known. We have more than once asserted, together with all the patriots in Lebanon, that President Franjiyah is at the head of all those who are struggling for the sake of Lebanon, for the sake of Lebanon's unity, for the sake of Lebanon's security, stability and independence. President Franjiyah is also at the head of those who are struggling to entrench a legitimate authority that is capable of caring for all the Lebanese citizens' interests and security. This was our opinion in the past, and this is still our opinion in the present. Our talks today have further stressed this trend. President Franjiyah has not discussed personal affairs but those that concern the Lebanese citizens in general, as well as the ways and means of easing the Lebanese citizens' burdens, prevent Lebanon's partition and strengthen Lebanon's position and its legitimate sovereignty.

A second question, which was raised by representatives of the Lebanese media accompanying President Franjiyah was: Israel spreads sedition wherever it goes, and the same applies to its agents inside [Lebanon]. So, Mr President, do you see events and fears continuing to arise in Lebanon, which your excellency has always wished to be united?

The president answered: No matter how long this sickness lasts, Lebanon will definitely recover eventually, thanks to the efforts of its honest sons and citizens. However, we should all cooperate; the Lebanese citizens are requested to cooperate with the honest leaders in Lebanon, so Lebanon may recover from this ordeal. We are confident that the final victory is for the Lebanese people.

Israel constitutes a strange and extraneous body in the Arab nation and the entire region and, naturally, in Lebanon. Lebanon is a part of the Arab homeland and the Lebanese are a part of the Arab nation, so this interference and this presence are extraneous and transient. It will not prevent the Lebanese people from achieving their objectives of independence, security, freedom and sovereignty.

The final question was: Would his excellency the president address the Lebanese people, who consider him to be the sole savior of Lebanon, on IHDIN radio [station operated by Franjiyah faction]?

His excellency the president said: On IHDIN radio, I would like to send greetings to every citizen in Lebanon. I hereby tell everybody that President Franjiyah came to us carrying your burdens. We have talked and exchanged viewpoints regarding these burdens. We hope that every Lebanese citizen will rise above all personal affairs and above all hatred so the whole people may build a dear strong Lebanon that will be active within the framework of its Arab nation.

President Franjiyah and the delegation accompanying him left Damascus at 1500 today following a 2-day visit to the country at the invitation of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, and the chief of protocol at the republic's presidency saw President Franjiyah off at the outskirts of Damascus.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID MEETS WITH SPECIAL TUNISIAN ENVOY

LD141129 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 12 Jan 81 p 1

[APS report: "President Bourguiba's Special Envoy"]

[Text] Algiers--Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, had a meeting at the presidency yesterday morning with Bedji Caid Sebsi, Tunisian minister of state and Tunisian head of state Habib Bourguiba's special envoy.

Bedji Caid Sebsi handed President Chadli Bendjedid a message from President Bourguiba.

Central Committee Member and Presidency Secretary General Abdelmalek Benhabyles and Tunisian Ambassador to Algiers Amor Fezzani attended the meeting.

On his departure from Algiers yesterday morning [11 January] Bedji Caid Sebsi expressed his respect and great esteem for President Chadli Bendjedid and conveyed his wishes for progress to the Algerian people. With regard to bileratal relations between Algeria and Tunisia, the Tunisian minister recalled [Algerian Foreign Minister] Mohamed Ben Yahia's visit to Tunis and the positive results which crowned the visit. We are working in Tunis and Algiers to strengthen those relations and consolidate them further, the Tunisian minister added. He concluded by expressing his conviction that Prime Minister Mohamed Abdelghani's forthcoming visit to Tunis will constitute an important new step on the path of Tunisian-Algerian relations.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEAKS ON CHAD, LOME TALKS, FRANCE

LD142040 Tripoli JANA in English 1925 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Benghazi, 14 Jan (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution, declared today, in a meeting with the student masses in Benghazi, that Libyan forces in Chad were being presently reinforced to face French colonialist forces' reinforcements along Chad's borders.

The leader added "The Libyan forces entered Chad in accordance with an agreement between the two countries and in response to President Goukouni's call, who has all the legitimacy because he was the one who formed the Chad Liberation Movement (Frolinat) and who led the liberation war for many years. It was also he who brought armed struggle to Chad's capital and overthrew Maloum's puppet regime. Goukouni Oueddei has all the legitimacy enabling him to call for Libyan forces, and will continue to have it. He alone is capable of asking them to withdraw, and he alone will be positively answered by Libya which will withdraw its forces after they had accomplished their task with honour and bravery, after they have given martyrs, and after these Libyan forces have defeated the rebellion and ended the civil war which has lasted many years, and also destroyed imperialist and reactionary attempts to transform Chad into an aggressive base.

The leader affirmed "The Frolinat movement, alongside of which Libya fought for ten years against imperialism, American interference, reactionary forces in Africa and the racist puppet regime in Chad, and which now has come to power, knows that the Libyan people is its historic ally and which will not abandon it in some future day."

The leader added "The Frolinat movement is an African liberation movement and an historical revolutionary movement hostile to colonialism just like the Algerian Liberation Front, the Popular Front for Liberation of Angola, the Mozambique Liberation Movement and the Guinea-Bissau Liberation Movement. The leader of this movement is Goukouni Oueddei who has the same legitimacy as any of the above mentioned movements, and has the same revolutionary legitimacy, and any decision adopted by the Lome conference against this movement's legitimacy is but ink or paper because it cannot annul quarter of a century's struggle waged by the Chadian people, or annul the value of the sacrifices of the martyrs who fell defending freedom in Chad."

The leader declared "The Libyan forces will not leave Chad until French forces leave Central Africa."

Regarding Lome's current conference, the leader said "This conference, which has no legitimacy, will not be able to take any decision concerning Chad, and any resolutions emanating from this conference will be ignored by us and will not be binding on us."

The Libyan leader asked "Why are those who are meeting today in Lome not objecting to the inflow of French troops into the Central African Republic and to the coup France organized in that country followed by the setting-up of a government flown in to Bangui on French planes? Why do not they object to the inflow of French troops into the Republic of Cameroon, Chad's neighbour? Why do not they object to the presence of French troops in Gabon and Senegal? Why do not they ask for the withdrawal of the Senegalese forces occupying Gambia? And why do not those who are meeting today in Lome protest against the presence of Egyptian troops in Sudan and Tanzanian troops in Uganda?

The Libyan leader added "Those meeting in Lome should have protested against these imperialist interventions in Africa instead of protesting against the aid the Libyans give to the Chadian people."

The Libyan leader went on "Any decision some African heads of state meeting in Lome might take against Libya or the legitimate government in Chad would have dangerous results. In this case the Libyan people will seriously consider stopping all economic aid to these conspiracies." He added: "Any violation of Chadian territory will be considered a violation of Libyan soil, and the Libyan people will fight side by side with the Chadian people. We are ready to take part in any battle, we will never refrain from defending the Chadian people, we will not leave the bodies of our martyrs to the imperialists' mercy, we will use all our military potential in the battle because we are the allies of the African peoples and revolutionary movements in Africa, and we will not hesitate to wage war against imperialism until they burn in the hungles of Africa along with their bases and their puppets."

The Libyan leader affirmed "We accept the challenge and the difficult path" regarding relations with France, the Libyan leader again affirmed that "The Libyan people, in all the decisions taken at people's congresses, is still preserving France's friendship and is still protecting the common and mutual interests existing between the Libyan and French peoples. We are striving and we will always strive to promote our relations with France but this cannot be done at the expense of Libya's security, or at the expense of Libya's martyrs in Chad, or if the conspiracy against Libya goes on behind the scenes. If France interferes with the security of the Libyan people, the Libyan people will enter the battle with all its weapons, the oil weapon, the political and economic weapon, and the revolutionary weapon. France will then suffer heavy losses."

The Libyan leader added that "If France commits any foolish act against the Libyan people, propositions will be put forward to the people's congresses, in emergency sessions, to boycott France economically and in all fields".

The leader stressed "France will be the losing party politically, economically and militarily in Africa and the Arab nation if it stood against Libya and intervened in Libya's circle of security, and the freedom loving Africans will be with us".

The leader added "By what right does France, which is in the heart of Europe, regard the security of a country in the middle of Africa as related to its own security? And how do French soldiers fight in Central Africa in the name of France's security while the Libyan people do not have the right to fight in Chad defending their security? And how could the Libyan people not regard Chad's security as related to their own?"

The leader went on to say "America, which is situated in the other half of the globe, is also regarding Chad's security as related to its own security. So how could Libya not regard Chad's security as related to its own?"

The leader also warned the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes of the consequences of conspiring against the Chadian people."

Reinforcements in Chad

LD141940 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Benghazi, 14 Jan (JANA)--Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution, this morning addressed students in Benghazi. He said that the Libyan forces in Chad are now being reinforced in face of French imperialist troop reinforcements on the Chad borders. He added that the Libyan forces entered Chad in accordance with [words indistinct] between the two countries and at the request of President Goukouni Oueddei, who enjoys full legitimacy because it is he who created the Chad Liberation Movement, Frolinat, who led the liberation war for many years and who brought the armed struggle to the capital of Chad and brought down the agent government of Maloum [words indistinct], Goukouni alone has the full legitimate right to [word indistinct] to invite the Libyan forces into his country, to keep them there or to ask them to withdraw. Only to him could Libya respond if he requested withdrawal of its forces after they have discharged their mission honorably and bravely and defeated rebellion.

ARMY CHIEF RECEIVES PALESTINIAN, LEBANESE LEADERS

LD150009 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the armed forces, received a delegation representing groups of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

It includes the brothers: Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front; Abu Ali Mustafa, assistant secretary of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; (Niami Jindil) member of the As-Sa'iqah political bureau; Taysir Abd al-Majid, member of the political bureau of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; Dr 'Abdallah Sa'adah, from the Syrian Social Nationalist party; Kamal Yunis, member of the executive committee of the Lebanese Socialist Union; and Nadim Abd as-Samad, member of the Political Bureau of the Lebanese Communist Party.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA, CARRINGTON EXCHANGE SPEECHES AT BANQUET

LD141657 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 10 Jan 81 pp 1,4

[MAP report: "On the Strength of Its Legitimate Rights and National Unanimity, Morocco Is Determined To Defend and Safeguard Its Territorial Integrity, Mr Boucetta States at the Dinner He Gave in Lord Carrington's Honor"]

[Text] Rabat, 9 Jan--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta gave a dinner in Rabat Thursday evening [8 January] in honor of [British] Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington.

The following is the full text of the speech delivered by M'hamed Boucetta on that occasion:

It is an honor and a pleasure for us to receive Lord and Lady Carrington and the members of the delegation accompanying them on this visit which we have been awaiting for a long time and to which we Moroccans attach the greatest importance.

Mr Minister, your visit follows the memorable visit made by Mer Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, at the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II. It shows the continuity of ties of sincere friendship and I can assure you that the Moroccan people and their kind intend to spare no effort to give our relations the special and privileged dimension for which our two sovereigns prayed during their meetings in October.

It gives me great pleasure, Mr Minister, to recall that relations between Britain and Morocco are of longstanding and go back several centuries. The United Kingdom accredited an ambassador to Morocco as early as 1451 and a peace and trade agreement was concluded in Fez in 1672. Some provisions made in the trade and navigation agreement which dates from 1856 still govern relations between our two countries. In mentioning these facts, my intention was simply to recall the main dates which illustrate the constancy and importance of relations between the two kingdoms.

It is now up to us to restore these relations to their former brilliance because, as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rightly pointed out, the two peoples have again realized that they have common interests and a great deal they can contribute to each other. In the same spirit, his majesty the king stated during the royal visit, and I quote: "This makes us even more proud and also firmer in our conviction that your visit will make an effective contribution to reviving our relations and increasing them, extending them to all the spheres, and there are many, in which our two countries have a mutual interest in cooperating and working together."

Therefore we welcome this new opportunity which is being offered to us to set new milestones in extending and increasing our cooperation whose success is already guaranteed by the long tradition of friendship and understanding between our countries and our joint commitment to the same human and spiritual values.

Mr Minister, like Britain, an exemplary model of a society based on the principles of freedom, justice and respect for human rights, Morocco enjoys a long tradition of democracy which has its source in the philosophical foundations of its Islamic religion, because cooperation and tolerance are cardinal principles of that religion. Modern Morocco is absolutely determined to give this democratic tradition to which it aspires a very advanced economic and social content.

Indeed, our country attaches great importance to the development of its economy and channels all its efforts into raising each citizen's living standards. It knows that it can count on active support from its traditional friends, among whom Britain holds a major place. Your country, which has attained a high level of technological and scientific development, can certainly make a major contribution to our development. In any case, Morocco wholeheartedly hopes it will do so.

Mr Minister, as this new year begins, it has to be noted that, after a period in which international relations were characterized by the search for dialogue and cooperation, illustrated by the detente policy, the international situation has become extremely worrying.

In the Middle East, Israel's forcible annexation of Arab territories and its decision to make Jerusalem its eternal capital was a challenge to Muslims, Christians and the entire international community and introduced a new and grave element into the region's explosive situation. Israel is persisting in its daily aggression against Lebanon and still occupies extensive Arab territories with impunity. The Palestinian people, for their part, have still not obtained recognition of their right to found a free and independent state on their territory, despite the heroic struggle they are still waging.

Morocco appreciates the new international awareness being increasingly demonstrated with regard to ending the injustice done to the Palestinian people. Europe's recent stances in this respect are encouraging. However, Morocco hopes that specific European initiatives might be envisaged without delay with a view to finding a just and all-embracing solution to this problem. Britain, which assumed responsibilities in that region in the past, in our view still has the determining role in seeking a solution.

In Asia, the conflict between Iraq and Iran is continuing despite repeated calls for a cease-fire. Afghanistan, a Muslim country, is still occupied by foreign troops.

Africa, through direct or indirect foreign interventions, has become the theater for superpower confrontation. A vast destablization and subversion operation is being mounted to undermine the independence and stability of several African countries, and the recent events in Chad are signficant in this connection. We should condemn such interventions which prompt justified anxiety throughout our continent.

Since Morocco recovered its Saharan territories 5 years ago it too has been a victim of this destablization operation, but on the strength of our legitimate rights and our national unamity in support of our soverign, His Majesty King Hassan II, we are determined to defend and safeguard our territorial integrity. However, we are open to dialogue with a view to restoring peace and harmony to our subregion for its well-being, its development and prosperity.

Mr Minister, Morocco and Britain have a common objective: to contribute to peace and international cooperation while respecting peoples' independence and freedom. Consequently we should work together in more sustained cooperation to face the challenges of a period in which many peoples and regions are living under the threat of insecurity and hunger.

Before I conclude, allow me to address my remarks to you Mr Minister, Lord Carrington, you who are described in your country's affairs. Indeed you have demonstrated your abilities and your success in administering public affairs, and I mention as proof of this the solution you succeeded in finding to the Zimbabwe problem, one of the most amicable problems [as published].

You have demonstrated your wisdom, your abilities, your capacity to cope with difficulties and the possibility of making the impossible. [as published] Similarly you have demonstrated that, for men like you, nothing is impossible. Proof of that was given in the fact that the Zimbabwe problem was solved thanks to you and your approach, which reveals both political courage and diplomatic skill. That solution also proves that all international problems can be solved by peaceful means and by dialogue without resorting to war and destruction.

I am convinced that your role as head of British diplomacy will be a determining factor in the search for appropriate solutions to problems such as the Middle East problem and others which concern the world and threaten peace and security. If not the whole of mankind's existence. That is our opinion of you, minister, you who are a man of strength and gaiety, and a man of political skill.

You and your honored wife are, therefore, welcome in a country which regards you as a friend and regards your people and your country as examples to be followed in various fields.

In expressing our confidence in the future of our relations and reiterating to you our sincere wish to consolidate them further, I invite you, Your Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen, to join in our wishes of good health and happiness to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and prosperity and greatness to the friendly British people, and our wishes for happiness and success to you Mr Minister and Lady Carrington. [Boucetta ends]

Lord Carrington's Reply

The foreign secretary then spoke and stressed the importance of the relations which exist between the two countries and the two governments. He recalled M'hamed Boucetta's visit to London in 1979--a visit which, the secretary said, was the starting point for the unofficial consultations which have become customary on subjects of mutual interest.

Referring to the international situation Lord Carrington indicated that he regards the continued occupation of Afghanistan as a threat to world peace and stability.

With regard to trade relations between the two countries the foreign secretary said that they are sound. In this respect he expressed his satisfaction at Morocco's choice of a British company which, despite close international competition, has been chosen to negotiate the Nador Rolling Mill contact, the most important event in Anglo-Moroccan relations in 1980, he said, was the official visit to Morocco by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

This dinner was attended by His Highness Prince Moulay Hassan Ben Mehdi, governor of the Bank of Morocco; Mahjoubi Aherdane, minister of state in charge of posts and telecommunications; M'hamed Douiri, minister of equipment and national promotion [title as published]; Abderrahmane Baddou and Abdelhaq Tazi, secretaries of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; Moroccan Ambassador to London Abdellatif Filali and British Ambassador to Rabat Simon Yelverton; members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Rabat, and several top officials from the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

UK'S CARRINGTON HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 9 JAN

LD141631 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 11 Jan 81 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Lord Carrington's Press Conference: Moroccan-British Relations Must Be Increased"]

[Text] [British] Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington gave a press conference in Rabat late Friday afternoon [9 January] which was attended by representatives of the national and international press.

In a preliminary statement he described the talks he had had with Moroccan officials as very positive and stressed the two countries' identical viewpoints.

After recalling that this is the first visit he has made to Morocco, one of the Arab world's great countries owing to its growing population, and the development of its economy and its political influence, Lord Carrington indicated that Morocco, "a friendly country, has become a neighbor following Spain's entry into the EEC."

The foreign secretary also expressed his satisfaction at the role played by Morocco within the Arab and African communities--a role which, he specified, is "characterized by a sense of responsibility and the determination to find solutions to the various problems, notably the destabilization in both the Arab world and the African Continent."

Referring to the EEC expansion and its effects following the entry of some countries into that community, Lord Carrington stated that "Britain will do its best to ensure that the EEC does not succumb to the temptation of protectionism in the short term.

"The Community's origins are as much political as they are economic and we know who our friends are and support them."

"I am acutely aware of Morocco's anxiety with regard to the Community's geographical expansion, and the repercussions of that are, of course, complex, but I hope they will not all be unfavorable," he added, specifying that "Britain will share Morocco's concern and has asked the Community countries to do likewise."

Turning to the Near East question Lord Carrington recalled Morocco's viewpoints, "which," he said, "are similar to those of Britain and the British Government."

"Those viewpoints," he specified, "are aimed at encouraging a political settlement of the conflict now prevailing in that region."

After that statement Lord Carrington answered various questions asked by the journalists. Those questions related to relations between Morocco and Britain, the tension in northwest Africa, the plan to construct an iron and steel complex in Nador, the Jerusalem question, the Palestinian problem and the Chadian conflict.

Discussing relations between Britain and Morocco Lord Carrington recalled that a cultural agreement was signed between the two countries during Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's visit to Morocco last year. This agreement, he stressed, is particularly important for the two countries since it makes provision for intensive English teaching in Moroccan schools.

With reference to trade relations the British official indicated that they must be increased for the good of the two countries. In this connection he mentioned the contract signed recently between Morocco and a British company for the construction of an iron and steel complex in Nador--an agreement which, he stressed, is a step forward in strengthening these relations.

With regard to the Near East question, especially the Palestinian and Jerusalem questions, Lord Carrington indicated that this problem "is one of the most difficult to solve, owing to its complexity; however," he added, "Britain, which is an EC member, emphasizes the need for a solution which could satisfy all those involved in this problem and all those who have an interest in the city of Jerusalem, which groups the revealed religions. We will do all we can to attain that goal," he added.

With regard to the tension in northwest Africa the British official indicated that the EC countries simply want a quick solution to be found adding that any initiative to do so will be supported by those countries.

Questioned on Gibraltar's status the British secretary revealed that he negotiated an agreement on this subject with the former Spanish foreign minister last April.

"I hope," he said, "that this agreement, which provides for the borders between the two countries to be opened, will be implemented."

Finally, with regard to the situation in Chad, the foreign secretary said he deplores "the attempt to destabilize countries in that region."

The press conference was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta, His Majesty the King's Ambassador to London Abdellatif Filali and the British Ambassador to Rabat Simon Yelverton, and by several top officials from the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

MALTA'S MINTOFF SPEAKS ON LIBYA AT 13 JAN BANQUET

LD141904 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Speech by Dom Mintoff, prime minister of Malta, given at a dinner hosted by Maati Bouabid, prime minister of Morocco, in Rabat on 13 January--recorded in Maltese fading into superimposed Arabic translation]

[Excerpt] The Arab countries helped us realize our freedom. Libya was among those countries which helped Malta realize its freedom. But, regrettably, and despite Libyan help to Malta, Libya was among the countries which restricted Maltese freedom and sent Libyan naval units to Maltese territorial waters, to an area which we claim to be under Maltese sovereignty.

It is worth mentioning that 4 years ago, during a visit to Malta Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, Libyan Minister Taha ash-Sharif ibn Amir signed an agreement with his Maltese counterpart on referring the question of the continental shelf to the International Court of Justice. For 4 years we pressed and urged Libya to ratify this agreement. When we discovered it was futile to press Libya, we decided to drill despite the Libyans.

Despite the Libyan restriction of Malta's independence and freedom, we managed to refrain from inviting a great foreign power to preserve the freedom of Malta. We were aware that, at the time, there were many foreign powers which wanted to give a helping hand to Malta in those circumstances. But we did not do that, as we do not believe in wars, particularly between brothers. We turned toward the UN Security Council and placed the issue before it. The Libyans always maintained there was no problem with Malta and relations were still normal. The Libyans promised the secretary general, Kurt Waldheim, that Libya would ratify the agreement with Malta, and that by 15 December all papers and documents on ratification would be [word indistinct] and the issue would be referred to the International Court of Justice. Despite the fact that the Libyan General People's Congress approved the agreement with Malta--and that was after 4 years--Libya has not yet forwarded the documents to the International Court of Justice.

I am not saying this today for the purpose of inciting Morocco against Libya, but I am saying this today so that it may reach the ears of the Libyans and in particular the ears of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, so that he understands that the secret of friendship between states lies in respecting these states' freedom and sovereignty.

When we faced that Libyan threat, we said that threat would help us prove to the whole world, and the Arab world in particular, that it was not true that Malta was nothing but a Libyan colony; on the contrary. Now, we are turning toward the Arab peoples and countries in order that they contribute to filling this vacuum which has resulted from the tension in Maltese-Libyan relations.

It is in our interest that we cooperate and coordinate our efforts instead of inciting one side against the other. Thus, when we say that when we are in Morocco we feel at home, this is because we find that our Moroccan brothers appreciate our problems and circumstances. We believe there is vast scope for cooperation and for the coordination of efforts in order to resolve these problems.

A Maltese proverb says: Treat every evil as if it were good. We are trying to transform our problems into good and prosperity for our country. We want to maintain excellent relations with all the Arab countries. We want to once more prove, and to Libya in particular, that Malta is a free and sovereign country. If Libya wants us to respect its freedom and sovereignty, it has to respect our freedom and sovereignty. When we say we have friendly relations with all the Arab countries, this is true because in addition to our excellent relations with Morocco we also have excellent relations with Algeria. We assisted in the past, and will do the same in the future, to resolve this temporary problem between the two countries.

SUDAN

TENSION ON BORDERS WITH LIBYA, CHAD REPORTED

JN150924 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 15 Jan (GNA)--Press reports here say today that the situation on the Sudanese-Libyan border and Sudanese-Chadian border has reached a state of acute tension.

The Bahraini paper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ quotes informed sources in the Sudanese capital today as saying that the Sudanese Government is transporting a large force of armored vehicles and tanks by air to border regions. The sources add that the huge Egyptian military transport planes, which have long been stationed at the base of Wadi Sayyidna, which is close to Khartoum, participated in transporting this force to the border region.

Maj Gen (Balma'sh) at-Tayyib al-Mardhi, governor of the province of Darfur, which borders Chad, announced the closure of the border between the two countries.

The paper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ also quotes Sudanese sources as saying that a high-level French military delegation visited Khartoum and held official talks on the situation in Chad.

It had been officially announced that a Sudanese military delegation will make a speedy visit to the United States, in order to hold official talks on arming the Sudanese forces. Some sources say that the urgent demand for arms from the United States is associated with the escalating situation between Sudan on one hand and Chad and Libya on the other.

Sudanese Troop Movements

LD151003 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 13 Jan 81 p 1

[Special correspondent's report from Khartoum: "Sudanese Strike Forces Moved Swiftly to Sudanese-Libyan Borders"]

[Excerpt] AL-JAZIRAH has learned that Sudanese strike forces have been swiftly moved to the long Sudanese-Libyan border (10,000 km long) in recent days following the declaration of the merger between Libya and Chad. The forces are backed by mechanized units and heavy weapons. Several logistic lines are to be established in case of an outbreak of fighting.

This was stated to AL-JAZIRAH by Sudanese sources close to military and political quarters in Khartoum. The sources added that Sudanese forces on the border with Chad (12,000 km long) have also been reinforced.

COALITION FACTIONS LEANING TOWARD EARLY ELECTIONS

TA141746 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The prevailing view in the Knesset is that next week a joint bill sponsored by the large Knesset factions will be submitted for the dissolution of the Knesset and for holding elections, probably in June. This seems to be the situation after the Democratic Movement, which is a coalition member, submitted a bill alone these lines and Agudat Yisra'el also announced its support for holding elections in June. Our Knesset correspondent, Moshe Hakohen, reports:

In the discussions and consultations in the Knesset it was learned today that the majority in the coalition and in the Likud object to Minister David Levi's initiative for a redistribution of the Cabinet portfolios, which would keep the Cabinet in office until November.

Likud's Position

TA150734 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jan 81 pp 1,2

[By Dan Margalit]

[Excerpt] After another round of contacts in an attempt to extend the government's term, the leaders of the Likud faction have reached the conclusion that it is impossible to prevent the dissolution of the Knesset and that early elections should be held on 16 June. However, in order to help Housing Minister David Levi to complete his efforts [to reorganize the government], a tentative meeting of the Likud faction has been set for tomorrow. Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Justice Minister Moshe Nisim have announced that Minister Levi is not acting with their approval.

AUTONOMY TALKS SESSION HELD IN TEL AVIV 14 JAN

TA151020 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Jan 81 p 2

[By 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpt] At the opening of the further round of autonomy talks on the level of working groups between Israel, Egypt and the United States held yesterday in Tel Aviv, there was an understanding between the participants that in the event of early elections in Israel there would be a "recess" in the negotiations for an unlimited period of time, despite the desire of all the parties to prevent a deadlock in the process.

In contrast to this, it was estimated that if the elections were to be held on their correct date, that is, November, the talks would be resumed at full speed shortly after President-elect Ronald Reagan enters office on 20 January.

Further Report

TA150804 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jan 81 p 2

[Text] Yesterday the Israeli working team delegation to the autonomy talks, headed by Interior Ministry Director General Hayim Kubersky, raised new ideas about the continuation of the negotiations. The discussions by the working groups in the autonomy talks, with the participation of delegations from Israel, Egypt and the United States, which opened yesterday in Tel Aviv's Laromme Hotel, are scheduled to end today and the Egyptian delegation will return to Cairo tomorrow.

Yesterday unofficial meetings were held between the three delegation heads, Messrs Hayim Kubersky, Ambassador Ahmad 'Abd al-Latif and Ambassador Wat Cluverius, who is representing the United States instead of Ambassador James Leonard. During the first, long meeting, held in the afternoon, the possibility was raised of preparing a joint conclusion about the negotiations, to define the fields of agreement and disagreement requiring governmental decisions. A broad discussion was also held about various points that had been discussed during the negotiations. The discussions were held in a good, friendly atmosphere. The chairman of the Israeli delegation, who received the guest delegations at Ben-Gurion Airport, said that every meeting of this sort advanced the talks.

NO DECISION MADE ON MOVING BEGIN'S OFFICE

TA141238 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee was today told by the prime minister's director general, Mati Shmuelevitz, that there has been no decision yet on moving the prime minister's office to east Jerusalem. The Treasury is seeking a budget of 14 million shekels for the transfer. Shmuelevitz said he did not know what costs this sum was expected to cover.

GOVERNMENT DECIDES ON THREE SAMARIA SETTLEMENTS

TA151012 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jan 81 p 1

[By 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] This week the government decided to establish three new settlements in Samaria. The decision was accompanied by a sharp argument between several ministers, with Ari'el Sharon, on the one hand, demanding that the three settlements be established and, on the other, Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin expressing opposition to this. Sharon claimed that the three settlements were included in the 10 settlements whose establishment was decided upon in principle in the past. Professor Yadin will complain to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee about the establishment of two or the three settlements.

INCREASED MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD ACTIVITY REPORTED

TA150903 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 15 Jan 81 p 1

[Text] An awakening of the Muslim Brotherhood has recently been felt in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, but so far the scope of this movement in the area is not clear and those people in the military government who are responsible for this issue are keeping a close watch on its development.

A military government officer reported to the ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria yesterday that this latest awakening was not the result of the last few weeks but a process that has been continuing for about 2 years and its foci were in Nabulus, east Jerusalem, Hebron and the Gaza Strip.

It has been learned that the military government is not interfering in this phenomenon as long as the Muslim Brotherhood members do not carry out any hostile activities in the framework of the terrorist organizations. The military government is also not treating them as a deviant element. However, the ITIM correspondent comments that there have recently been deviant phenomena, when some of the brotherhood members committed security offenses and became involved in hostile activity on behalf of terrorist organizations. They were detained for interrogation and they include preachers and shaykhs from Nabulus and Janin mosques, as well as university teachers and students. It has been reported that these detentions are under no circumstances against a religious background, but because of security offenses.

REPORTAGE ON LOME MEETING ON CHAD SITUATION

Drafting Committee

AB141658 Paris AFP in French 1433 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Lome, 14 Jan (AFP)--It was learned in Lome during a break in the deliberations of the meeting of 13 African countries, which are being held behind closed doors, that a drafting committee comprising Senegal, Niger, Nigeria, Libya, the CAR and Sierra Leone has been charged with responsibility for drawing up a text.

The meeting will reopen at 1430 GMT. Mr 'Abd As-Salam at-Turayki, the Libyan representative, left the conference room soon after the meeting opened in protest against the presence of an Egyptian observer, but he returned to the hall soon after the departure of the latter. Mr Samir Ahmad, the Egyptian under secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, explained on his departure that he did not want to afford Libya the occasion of avoiding condemnation by the African countries present in the Togolese capital.

Libyan Presence Denunciation

AB141902 Paris AFP in French 1820 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Lome, 14 Jan (AFP)--The 12 African countries meeting in Lome since Tuesday condemned the Libyan military presence in Chad and the proposed merger between the two countries. They called for the holding of elections under the supervision of the OAU before April 1981.

These resolutions were contained in the final communique made public on Wednesday following the meeting. The Libyan secretary of state for external affairs, Mr at-Turayki, who attended the deliberations, said in a press conference that his country did not feel concerned by the resolutions.

Nigerian Resolution

AB142147 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] A Nigerian-sponsored resolution has been submitted to the OAU's special committee on Chad, which began a full scale analysis in Lome, Togo, today. The resolution reaffirmed the validity of the Lagos accord as the only basis for the establishment of real and lasting peace and security in a sovereign, independent and stable Chad. It condemned the reported merger agreement between Libya and Chad and said that it violated the spirit and letter of the Lagos accord. In addition, the resolution called on Libya and the Transitional National Union Government in Chad to set aside the reported agreement as null and void.

Libya and other powers have also been called upon to immediately withdraw all their troops presently stationed on Chadian national territory. The resolution urged all member countries of the OAU, especially those with common borders with Chad, to refuse [to allow] their territories to be used by extra-African powers and dissidents or Chadian groups as sanctuaries or bases for moutning armed attacks against Chad.

It mandated the secretary general of the OAU to organize free and fair elections under the auspices of the OAU by the end of April this year. The resolution said that any elections not conducted under the auspices of the OAU in Chad would be regarded as invalid. It also suggested the sending of a monitoring commission and an African peace-keeping force to Chad.

Meanwhile, President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad is still being expected in the Togolese capital. It is understood that an aircraft has left an African country for Ndjamena to facilitate his arrival in Lome.

ETHIOPIA

AL-QADHDHAFI MESSAGE DELIVERED TO MENGISTU

LD141948 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 14 Jan 81 EA

[Summary] Chairman Mengistu today received a message from Libya's Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, which was delivered by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, general secretary of the General People's Congress. Mengistu reciprocated Al-Qadhdhafi's greetings.

"Earlier, Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs and member of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Central Committee, and the high-level delegation of the Libyan Arab Jamahariyah discussed matters pertaining to relations between the two countries, the situation in the region, and Africa in general."

KENYA

PRESIDENT MOI LIFTS CURFEW IN TWO DISTRICTS

LD142004 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Jan 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi has lifted the curfew in Wajir and Mandera Districts which was imposed by the government last year.

The announcement was made by the minister of state in the president's office, Mr G.G. Kariuki, when he addressed a public rally at Wajir Town today. Amid cheers from wananchi in the area, Mr Kariuki said the president had decided to lift the curfew in the two districts in the northeastern province after getting convincing reports from the district commissioner and the provincial commissioner indicating that wananchi in the two districts had shown by action that the presence of shiftas in those areas was an unfortunate affair and that the people do not support them. Mr Kariuki said President Moi does not want any woman or child suffering or being inconvenienced by the curfew. He, however, told the rally that the 2300 to 0500 curfew order in Garissa was still on.

Mr Kariuki told the rally that the government will do everything possible to protect the lives of innocent wananchi from those who want to disrupt peace in the province. He reminded them that they are the ones who can get rid of the shiftas from their midst by reporting any suspicious people in the area. The minister told the people in the province that they have no other home to go to, and called on them to be alert for those who are out to create trouble in the area. He said Kenya's population of 16 million people cannot be defeated by a few misguided people who are molesting wananchi in the area. Mr Kariuki commended the people of Wajir for their cooperation with the government in fighting the shiftas. He said that peoples good actions were for their own benefit.

Earlier, Mr Kariuki told a leaders meeting that the government has plans to arm the home guards in the manyattas to pretect them from shifta attacks. He said peace can only be maintained if the people in the province will have a change of attitude. The minister cautioned, however, that they should be more careful with the guns to be provided to the home guards because they may become the targets of the shiftas.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

380 FRENCH TROOPS ARRIVE AS REINFORCEMENTS

AB141954 Paris AFP in French 1741 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Bangui, 14 Jan (AFP)--Three hundred and eighty French troops have arrived in the CAR as reinforcements. They were all sent to the base at Bouar, located 450 km west of Bangui. The total number of French troops in the CAR is currently 1,300 men, 800 of whom are in Bouar and 500 in Bangui.

The Bouar base, which was created about 15 years ago by General Zigeard, was rehabilitated in June 1980 when the French troops were transferred from Ndjamena. A company and a squadron of light armored cars, two motorized infantry companies, a support company equipped with 120mm heavy mortars and an engineering section are at Bouar. These units are also equipped with a large number of Milan antitank missiles and antiaircraft guns.

A small tactical headquarters was established in Bouar to supervise these units. Lastly, in addition to these intervention troops, which are part of the marine infantry division (Dima), four Jaguar fighters and a Breguet-Atlantic aircraft were made available on a temporary basis in this mission and they are stationed at Bangui Airport.

All these French troops are under the command of Col Yves Bechu.

CHAD

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON GOUKOUNI VISIT TO LIBYA

AB151200 Paris AFP in French 1107 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Jan (AFP)--As far as the Chadian Government is concerned, a merger between Libya and Chad can only be the result of the freely expressed wish of the two peoples concerned.

A communique published by the CHADIAN NEWS AGENCY (ATP) the day after the Cabinet meeting devoted to the results of President Goukouni Oueddei's visit to Tripoli explains that the Chadian-Libyan union project is not enforceable. The two parties, adds the communique, merely issued in Tripoli a declaration of intention reflecting the historical and geographical ties existing between the two brotherly peoples of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In this communique, the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) also reaffirms its attachment to the clauses of the Lagos accord which expressly banned the maintenance of foreign bases on Chad's national territory and again thanks Libya for helping it to end the rebellion. President Goukouni Oueddei's government emphasizes its desire to consolidate mutual aid and cooperation with Libya on the basis of national sovereignty, mutual respect and the interests of the two brotherly peoples.

The communique invites the OAU secretary general to reexamine with Chad the problems pertaining to peace, national reconciliation and the reconstruction of the country. The GUNT also affirms that Chad will never serve as a springboard for the destabilization of the countries in the region and calls on all countries to avoid interfering in Chad's internal affairs and encouraging and supporting the rebellion.

Chad, continues the ATP communique, will continue to maintain normal relations with the countries with which it has cooperation agreements, particularly France. The communique finally indicates that concerning the setting up of the integrated national army, the GUNT will strictly adhere to the terms of the Lagos accord. The Chadian Government appeals to all friendly countries to help establish this army.

ZAIRE

BELGIAN JOURNALISTS FIND KASI-ORIENTAL AREA OUTLET

AB151245 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] A number of Belgian journalists [words indistinct] arrived in Mbujimayi yesterday morning to verify reports published by their country's press to the effect that there is a serious crisis in the capital of the diamond-producing region as a result of the arrest of the New Year's eve conspirators, most of whom are from the Kasai-Oriental region.

On leaving Kinshasa, where they arrived last Sunday from Brussels, they decided to spend a week in Kasai-Oriental in order to report on the so-called hostile demonstrations against the Mobutu regime. How surprised they were to note that more luxuriant than ever, Mbujimayi is living in the revolutionary atmosphere which characterizes all our major cities where private initiatives compete with the development actions undertaken by the public authorities!

The Belgian journalists devoted yesterday afternoon to a tour of the city of Mbujimayi during which they questioned the inhabitants. They held discussions with their compatriots working for (Amiba), who were disappointed to see that their country's press (? is inspired) by the lies of some irresponsible elements who are considered in Belgium as opponents of the Mobutu regime. The general manager of (Amiba), Mr Charles Thomas, told the journalists: We are in a free country and we are going about our business in peace. Say this to our Belgian compatriots.

During a discussion with the journalists, some Baluba notables stated: Mobutu is the man who brought us peace after all the calamities we experienced after our country became independent. To oppose this man is to try to replunge us into misery with all its train of mourning. The notables very strongly comdemned the subversive activities of some people's commissioners.

OPPOSITION LEADER IN BELGIUM ASSAILS MOBUTU

LD141517 Brussels LE SOIR in French 10 Jan 81 p 3

[Etienne Ugeux report: "Mungal-Diaka: Zairian Members of Parliament Have Merely Submitted a Petition to Mobutu"]

[Text] Mr Bernadrin Mungul-Kiaka, chairman of the "Council for the Liberation of Congo-Kinshasa" [CLC], the main Zairian liberation movement, has given a press conference in the presence of several Belgian members of Parliament to denounce, he stated, "the circumstances under which 22 Zairian members of Parliament have been either arrested or placed under surveillance on account of views expressed in the exercise of their duties, a fact which shows the illusory nature of a democratic system with Mr Mobutu as leader of the country."

It was a group of 13 members of Parliament representing all regions (not only Kasai, Mungul-Diaka insisted) which, while analyzing the regime's failure over 15 years, denounced some recent facts, including "the appropriation of 200,000 zaires (some 2 million Belgian francs) by Mobutu and twice as much by his eldest son for Christmas celebrations." They also mentioned the purchase of an armor-plated Rolls-Royce for Mobutu's eldest son by the republic. They related in detail expenses incurred in connection with the celebrations of Mobutu's 50th birthday, his enthronement as traditional paramount chief of the Ngwandi and his daughter's wedding amounting, according to them, to a total of more than $150 million.

Also according to Mungul-Diaka, "The document written by these members of Parliament states in conclusion that presidential elections should be organized to enable another son of the country to carry on with the task."

"This petition," Mungul-Diaka asserts, "was conveyed in a normal way by Mr Nagalula, through Legislative Council Chairman Nzondomyo, to the president of the republic and a receipt for its delivery was given. This means that this initiative was taken by the members of Parliament concerned in the exercise of their duties....

"Mr Mobutu's reaction to a document which bordered on the crime of lese majesty was prompt. The people concerned were immediately arrested."

Referring to his personal experience, Mungal-Diaka discussed the conditions under which the 14 members of Parliament thus arrested have been held--they "have been kept in an underground prison in OAU City (LE SOIR note: OAU City was built for an OAU summit; it includes, among other things, some 40 houses and a restaurant. According to a Belgian journalist who returned from Kinshasa on Wednesday, the imprisoned members of Parliament are held in houses numbered 20, 21 and 22 and their meals are brought to them direct from the restaurant) in which there are no beds, sheets or blankets and where they are supposed to wear only slips and undershirts. They are unable to bathe and have no light. They have refused to eat the rotten beans served in prison because they are afraid of being poisoned," Mungul-Diaka asserted, and "their families have not been allowed to bring them food. It is hoped that they will die of starvation."

With reference to recent troubles in Kasai, which have been categorically denied Iby Kinshasa, Mungul-Diaka asserted that they were serious.

The governor's residence was ransacked--the governor is now in Kinshasa. Air traffic between Kasai and all other regions of Zaire was stopped. It can be feared that troop reinforcements could be sent to the province and, the CLC chairman mysteriously added, the situation in Kinshasa could well become worse.

In Mungul-Diaka's view, Kinshasa wants to make people believe that all the dissident members of Parliament come from Kasai. In fact, he stated, some of them come from other regions--Kivu, Shaba, Lower Congo and so forth--and this shows that discontent is widespread. Mungul-Diaka also denounced what he called "the hashish traffic scandal"--hashish is brought to Belgium aboard aircraft carrying cobalt from Bangui to Stend Airport. Mungul-Diaka asserted that the scandal was hushed up after an inquiry showed that the Mobutu family was involved.

Mungul-Diaka emphasized that the West, and especially Belgium, which has been entrusted with the task of coordinating all action by countries friendly to Zaire, is directly responsible for the support given by these countries to the regime.

He demanded that the West exert pressure to secure the release of the members of Parliament concerned, the post office employees who have been found guilty of distributing CLC leaflets which were secretly sent under cover from Europe and other people imprisoned because of their views.

Asked about his views on the Zairian ambassador's offer to meet the Zairian opponents of the regime living in Brussels, Mungul-Diaka stated that he "would not meet the ambassador."

"Since the Zairian authorities refuse to engage in dialogue with their own members of Parliament, why do they want to engage in discussions with members of the opposition living abroad?" he asked.

NIGERIA

COMMENTARY VOICES 'DISGUST AT CHAD-LIBYA MERGER

AB131400 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is not surprising that many countries, especailly those within the OAU, have reacted briskly and with a feeling of disgust at the proposed merger between the Republic of Chad and Libya. Within the context of the OAU, there is nothing wrong when two African countries go into a cooperation agreement in many fields as long as the sovereignty of any of the contracting countries is not undermined. After all, the OAU was founded on the principle of cooperation among the member nations with a clearly spelled-out clause of noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

The Tripoli manipulation has earned well-deserved international rejection and condemnation. The people of Chad have been fighting over the years to get rid of neocolonialism and establish genuine and permanent understanding as a basis for national stability. They are just not in a position to gamble away their independence in the sense of (?bare-faced) colonization organized by one man attempting to sell out the people of Chad.

When the leaders of Chad, about 2 years ago, requested Nigeria to assist in restoring peace in that country, Nigeria realized that it could not do it all alone. It however, took the initiative in the interest of the Chadian people and Africa and rightly solicited the involvement of a number of countries bordering on Chad in the renewed peace efforts. The product of such initiatives which was largely commended by both the OAU and the United Nations, was the Kano accord. Despite the initial difficulties and the disruptions in the complete implementation of the accord, Nigeria and many African countries were committed to helping the people of Chad restore peace in their area. They were not counting the cost to their own resources and funds. What was paramount in their actions was a genuine desire to reestablish the rule of law and tranquility in a sister African country, where there had been bloodshed for almost 14 years. The records show that the quest for peace in Chad has been as long as the conflict itself. It is relevant to recall the major aspects of both the Kano and Lagos accords under which the present Transitional National Union Government in Chad was set up with Mr Goukouni Oueddei as president. First, there was to be a genuine cease-fire, then the demilitarization of Ndjamena, the positioning of an OAU peace-keeping force and the restoration of normal atmosphere. These should have been followed by a general election for the formation of a popularly elected government. With a cease-fire agreement already signed, what the people of Chad now require urgently is the implementation of other aspects of the accord which will ensure permanent peace and reconciliation. The chief task of the Transitional National Union Government should therefore be that of reconciliation, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

After many years of devastating internal strife, the economy of the country is grounded and shattered with over two-thirds of the population abandoning their traditional homes to seek refuge in neighboring countries, including Nigeria. The machinery to rehabilitate the economy and ensure the return of those who fled the country should be set in motion urgently. The initiative to give genuine assistance to the union government has already been taken in Lagos at the recent meeting of the OAU Committee on Chad. This permanent [words indistinct] to Chadian leadership should create the right atmosphere for the implementation of the committee's master plan for rehabilitation.

It is a most welcome move that the current chairman of the OAU, President Siaka Stevens, has called for a meeting to discuss the latest development in Chad. President Goukouni Oueddei has in the past enjoyed the support of the OAU and should therefore not allow himself to be led into a situation which will negate all the principles for which he and his people have laid down their lives to accomplish.

This is the time for him [words indistinct] to listen to be able to have a serious second thought and utilize all the assistance from the OAU in the overall interest of the entire Chadian population. Any action to the contrary would amount to great disservice to the people of Chad who might suffer a terrible setback [words indistinct]. This is the time for him to think of the inevitable verdict of history.

RELATIVE OF KANO DISTURBANCES LEADER ARRESTED

AB141758 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The police in Sokoto State have arrested a relative of the late fanatic leader of the Kano religious disturbances, Mahamadu Marwa. Addressing a news conference in the state capital, the commissioner of police, Alhaji Saluh Dorah, said the woman, (Hadja Aishatu) was arrested at (?Gbongboru) in the Gusau local government area after a tip off by the village head. He denied allegations that the weapons used by the fanatics during the disturbances were found in Sokoto state. Alhaji Saluh warned the religious teachers in the state [words indistinct] and against open air preaching.

He said the regional police officers have been empowered to enforce the 1979 act on religious teachings, adding that those who violate the law will be severely dealt with.

STUDENT ARRESTED RECEIVING SMUGGLED WEAPONS

AB151300 Paris AFP in English 1246 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Lagos, Jan 15 (AFP)--An undergraduate of the University of Lagos was arrested at the airport here yesterday while attempting to take delivery of 2,000 bullets and 20 pistols smuggled into Nigeria, press reports said here today. The arms were concealed in some loudspeakers which arrived earlier on a plane of the British Caledonian Airline, the reports said.

A customs official became suspicious when the 21-year-old economics students offered him a bribe not to inspect the goods. The student was taken into custody by police who declined to say where he was being held. He reportedly said that if he had been able to assume charge of the weapons he would have gone to Kano state with them. The northern state has been the scene of recent bloody religious riots.

PRESS REPORTS, EDITORIALS ON KANO INCIDENTS

Israel Support Claim

WA151457 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 30 Dec 80 p 9

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Text] Israel is behind the religious fanatics' riot in Kano, a PRP member of the National Assembly, Dr Junaid Mohammed, asserted in Lagos yesterday.

He said that "the bloody situation in Kano was not a mere religious fanaticism of a few zealots, it was a carefully conceived plan by MOS-7 SAD; the Israelis secret service." Dr Junaid, whose constituency includes Yan Awaki, the fanatics' stronghold, said the ultimate aim of Israelis and their Nigerian agents was the overthrow of the Federal Government.

He asserted that non-Nigerians had been recruited and trained in the use of modern weapons and urban guerrilla tactics and sent into the country to disrupt the peace and, by so doing, lead to the overthrow of the Federal Government.

"The Republics of Cameroon, Chad and Niger are the recruitment and training centres for the mercenaries and agents provocators to forment trouble in Nigeria," Dr. Junaid further stated.

"The issue at stake in Kano is the very survival of democracy in Nigeria, and senile and disgruntled politicians who are willing saboteurs and Zionists agents of destruction must not be allowed to subvert the will of the people because they lost the last elections," he said.

Dr Junaid said he alerted the Nigerian Security Organisation (NSO) three months ago about the sinister motives of the sect. "I even told the NSO that the fanatics had external backing but heed was not paid," he added.

Call for Religion Ministry

WA151446 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 30 Dec 80 p 16

[Text] A call has been made on the Federal Government to create a Ministry for Religious Affairs.

Speaking to a NEW NIGERIAN correspondent in Kaduna yesterday, the former Grand Khadi of the Northern States, Alhaji Abubakar Mahmoud Gummi said the creation of such a ministry is necessary for the co-ordination of religious affairs in the country.

Alhaji Abubakar Gummi, who made the suggestion while commenting on the recent Kano religious disturbances, suggested that when established, the ministry should comprise three departments to take charge of Islamic, Christian and Customary religious affairs in the country.

Ahaji Abubakar Gummi said the setting up of the ministry would also help in monitoring and controlling the affairs of the various religious groups by the government.

Alhaji Abubakar was of the view that the recent Kano disturbances would have been averted if such an institution were in existence because it would have been possible to prevent the disturbances from escalating.

The former grand Khadi also suggested that, as a start, the Federal Government should open three departments in the Ministry of Internal Affairs to handle matters affecting the three religious groups in the country.

Criticizm of Kano Governor

WA151400 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 30 Dec 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Unbecoming"]

[Text] Governor Muhammed Abubakar Rimi last week went on Kano radio and Nigerian Television also of Kano over the unfortunate, though not totally unavoidable, tragedy that has befallen his capital--the killings and the disrupture to normal life. Instead of simply appealing for calm and cooperation from the public he deviated and pointed accusing fingers at God-knows-who as the perpetrators of the Maitatsine riot. If, as he claimed, he knew the people behind the riots what did Governor Rimi do to counter their efforts?

By making those claims the governor is unwittingly accepting some responsibility for the resultant loss of life and property, for as the chief security officer of his state, he had, and still has the constitutional instruments to nip the situation in the bud. Did he do that? If he didn't why not? Governor Rimi should learn to be more circumspect in his utterances especially while the crisis lasts and even long after that. Such unguarded statements are capable of causing bad tempers which could worsen an already bad situation.

Little wonder some Kano citizens are accusing him of palpable insensitivity. Only an insensitive man could ignore the potential danger of such statements. The violent attack on his residence, by some apparently disenchanted elements stands, however, condemned. Hundreds of people have died--many of them innocent--from the apparently avoidable prolongation of the bloodshed. The ways and means to end it should have been uppermost in the governor's mind not to try to turn it into a subject of empty "strong" talks.

As some observers have already remarked Governor Rimi, indeed any chief executive, will not be judged by his 'tough talk' and boisterous postures, but by tangible results of 'his tenure.

Perhaps Governor Rimi was not being insensitive after all. His statements might have been the result of the shock caused him by the situation and the manifest threat to his position, especially in the light of developments totally unrelated to the religious revolt. But those who claim to be more than the ordinary mortals in intellect and perception--not 'power'--should prove that by their action and words. That is what is expected of Governor Rimi. A riotous situation that has claimed the lives of several hundreds and that could cause thousands physical and economic incapacity, apart from temporary inconvenience, is certainly not opportune moment for politicking. No Governor Rimi, no.

Public Disclosure Call

WA151444 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 31 Dec 80 p 1

[Editorial: "The Next Step"]

[Text] The death of the leader of the band of religious fanatics, Malam Muhammadu Marwa, alias Maitatsine, in an obscure village may have robbed the nation of the most authoritative source of information on the origins and motives of his revolt. That will be a tragedy. All the same an attempt must be made to get to as near the truth as possible. This, we believe, is the surest way to win back public confidence in the ability of the security forces to look after the welfare of the citizenry.

Certainly the strength of the fanatics was grossly underestimated. Their existence amidst ordinary citizens was taken for granted but not unknown. For they had, on a number of occasions, terrorised their neighbourhoods. They even commandeered a whole primary school and forced it to close down permanently. The fanatics incorporated the school into their system. Reports of this--ten of them in number by some accounts--must have reached the state government. The public is entitled to know what action was taken on this. If not, why not? Or can the Kano State Government deny any knowledge of a fracas in which one of the sons of the fanatics' leader was killed prior to the outbreak of large scale violence? There are indeed quite a lot of knowns about the fanatics.

What is not precisely known is whose goodwill enabled them to grow to such dangerous proportions and what was their motive when they went on an all out war against the society that has harboured their leader for years and hosted them for months? These questions must be answered fully. Do they have any foreign backing as is being alleged? What country backed them? Their ability to weild fire-power better than the mobile police suggests that many had some military training.

Judging by the way the early existence and growth of the fanatics was handled the public may not have faith in the findings of an enquiry. The public is perfectly entitled to feel disenchanted, nay disgusted. However, now that the violence is over the restoration of normalcy to Yan Awaki and environs must be pursued with the greatest vigour. That should include assessment of damage and compensation to those who suffered heavy material losses. The Federal Government has already come to the aid of the Kano State Government. This is quite compassionate.

ANGOLA

LUANDA CITES NUJOMA ON 'COLLAPSE' OF CONFERENCE

AB151400 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] Comrade Sam Nujoma, the president of the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia yesterday said the failure of the United Nations-sponsored conference in the [word indistinct] Hall on the future of Namibia in Geneva (?showed how) the Pretoria's rascist regime is afraid of full and fair elections in Namibia because SWAPO will win them. Comrade Nujoma was addressing the closing session of the conference which collapsed because of the racist Pretoria and its puppets refusal to sign the cease-fire agreement on the implementation of the UN peace plan, including Resolution 435.

The assistant general secretary of the UN for special political affairs,(Fred Okapa), who attended the conference, told newspapers after the conference that a great [word indistinct] had been made. He called on the Pretoria regime and its puppets on behalf of Waldheim to reconsider their stand as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the SWAPO of Namibia has called on the UN to impose comprehensive economic sanctions against Pretoria, including the oil embargo. And SWAPO has pledged to intensify armed liberation struggle for the total liberation of Namibia.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON FRANCOIS-PONCET VISIT

AB150900 Paris AFP in French 1855 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Luanda, 14 Jan (AFP)--A joint Franco-Angolan declaration on the need for Namibia to become independent without delay in an internationally recognized manner and the desire to see the continued development of bilateral relations to cover new areas has been published at the end of the official visit of Jean Francois-Poncet, the French minister of foreign affairs, to Angola.

In this declaration, published on Wednesday in Luanda, the two countries state that the independence of Namibia must be recognized in accordance with the terms of the procedure stipulated by the UN plan and Security Council Resolution No 435.

They expressed support for the people of Namibia in the defense of their inalienable right to freedom and independence. Finally, they condemned apartheid policy and racial discrimination in South Africa.

France and Angola, on the other hand, asserted their attachment to the respect of the independence and political options of states. They stressed that economic development is henceforth the priority of the African Continent.

The final declaration also discusses Franco-Angolan relations which have significantly increased during the last 2 years and stresses the prospects of cooperation in the sectors of energy (oil, electricity), construction, transport, fishing, textile industry, agriculture and agro-food industry.

The two countries envisaged the conclusion of a major cultural, scientific and technical cooperation agreement and have decided on the opening of talks in this connection. They agreed on exchanging missions soon to examine the possibilities of fostering cooperation between them.

The two sides stressed the special significance of Francois-Poncet's visit, their interest in maintaining contact at the ministerial level and finally the cordial atmosphere for the discussions.

The French minister expressed thanks for the warm hospitality he had enjoyed in Angola since Sunday evening and invited his Angolan counterpart to visit Paris. Paulo Jorge accepted this invitation and a date for the visit will be fixed later.

Jean Francois-Poncet was received on Wednesday afternoon by Angolan Minister of Foreign Trade Lopo do Nacimento; Minister of Planning Roberto de Almeida, Minister of Agriculture Manuel Pacavira and Minister of Petroleum Jorge Morais.

SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICIAL, RADIO COMMENT ON GENEVA TALKS RESULTS

Fourie Comment

LD151330 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The director general of foreign affairs, Dr Brano Fourie, says the conference on the future of South-West Africa was not a total failure because for the first time the internal parties of the territory were given the opportunity to take part in discussions on an equal footing and to state their case before the rest of the world.

Dr Fourie, who has just returned from Geneva, held talks at Jan Smuts Airport with the minister of foreign affairs and briefed Mr Botha on developments at the conference. At a news conference after their meeting Dr Fourie said the differences between the various parties had been brought clearly to the fore at the Geneva conference. Dr Fourie said considerable progress had been made in the sense that the outside world had been able to take note of the fact that the internal parties had been acting in their own right and that they were not puppets of the South African Government.

On the threat of sanctions against South Africa, Dr Fourie said that at no stage of the conference had anyone used the threat of sanctions. He said there would be meetings of the Organization of African Unity and other organizations and it could be expected that punitive measures would be discussed. Dr Fourie said SWAPO's threat at a news conference of sanctions and an intensification of the war should be seen in the light of the organization's viewpoint and its conduct at the conference. SWAPO had done nothing at the conference to try to find a solution, but after its aggressive stand on the first day of the conference the SWAPO delegation had kept quiet. At the end of the conference SWAPO had repeated the same old slogans that everyone had heard before.

Johannesburg Commentary

LD141746 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Voice of South-West Africa/Namibia"]

[Excerpts] The conference in Geneva designed to achieve internationally agreed settlement terms for South-West Africa/Namibia, ended as it began in deadlock over the bias of the body that is supposed to oversee the independence settlement. The demand that the United Nations Secretariat demonstrate its professed impartiality proved an insurmountable obstacle. When it came to the crunch, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and his officials found that they were bound by the blatently one-sided resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

Thus, the Geneva conference did not achieve its object but it did achieve something as important: It gave a platform for the first time in an international forum to the genuine voice of the people of South-West Africa-Namiba, and in doing so it exploded the carefully nurtured myth that SWAPO is the voice. Among the objective outsiders who noted this was the powerful American publication the WALL STREET JOURNAL.

The past week has seen a major step forward in the international negotiations on South-West African independence. Delegates of the Democratic parties were given the opportunity. Consistently denied them in the past, of motivating their demands for equal treatment and pointing out how the agreement on United Nations impartiality had been flouted. So convincingly did they argue that the UN chairman, Mr Brian Urquhart, was forced to concede that the situation would have to change substantially, at least after settlement terms had been reached.

But the most important achievement was the demonstration that it was neither SWAPO nor South Africa that was representing the people of South-West Africa at the Geneva conference. It was chiefly the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, victor of a one-man, one vote election in the territory. As the WALL STREET JOURNAL remarked, there are at least 10 population groups in the territory that would not accept a dictatorship under SWAPO. The voice of South-West Africa-Namibia was heard at Geneva. Undoubtedly, it will be heard often again in the course of the territory's progress to independence.

ZIMBABWE

MINISTER DENIES CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT FARM POLICY

LD131040 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 12 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The minister of lands, resettlement and rural development, Comrade Sekeramayi, has denied reports which appeared in the HERALD recently that the government is going to abolish part-time peasant farming.

In an interview with the ZBC news service this afternoon Comrade Sekeramayi said the phrase used in the article, part-time farmers, was coined by the HERALD and it did not appear anywhere in his statement. He accused them of distorting his statement in order to cause alarm and despondency among the people. Comrade Sekeramayi assured the ZBC news service that the government had not made any policy decision about part-time farming. He said that a correct version of the statement is that the government is at present looking at the peasant farming sector, where large areas are utilized by people who earn a living in urban centers.

Comrade Sekeramayi stressed that a person who has land as his only source of income requires more land than a person who has another source of income in urban areas. He also revealed that the government has so far acquired 200,000 hectares of farmland, adding that there are problems in negotiating with farm owners, most of whom are out of the country.